Fedco Trees 2006

FEDCO TREES 2006

Welcome to Fedco Trees' 22nd annual order. Our goal is to provide the hardiest and healthiest plants available for cold climates, while supporting small-scale local agriculture and a cooperative workplace. As far as we know, there is nothing else like Fedco Trees anywhere. Accept no imitations! Our no-frills operation and volume discounts help keep plants affordable. Consider ordering in a group with co-workers, friends or neighbors to further minimize your costs.

There is much that makes Fedco Trees unique. All the plants we sell are well-rooted and selected to grow well in the north. Many of them are quite rare, the results of years of research and exploration. We vary our listings every year to maximize the choices available over time. We strive to make our catalog light on superlatives and heavy on information. We want you to know the story behind the plants we offer. We also include extensive planting information throughout the catalog. If you find something that's incorrect, let us know!

Our business structure is all about cooperation. We are part of Fedco Seeds, a consumer and worker co-op: the customers and staff are Fedco's owners. Fedco Trees also supports a growers co-op. This season, two thirds of our woody plant offerings are being grown by our seventeen-nursery growers co-op. These small Maine nurseries employ sustainable farming practices with minimal machinery on small acreage. The largest is three acres. All the plants are hand-planted and hand-dug. Growers regularly communicate with one another throughout the year. In July we hold our annual summer growers meeting at one of the nurseries where we discuss policy, pricing and growing techniques. Growing for Fedco Trees is a collaborative—not a competitive—experience. Growers receive fair payment for their trees and shrubs. When you buy a Fedco tree, you are directly supporting local agriculture.

Our workplace model may be unique among nurseries. Our Trees staff meets before and after the spring season to discuss operations. In late summer, the entire Fedco staff meets to review the year and make major policy decisions. Wages are proposed by the staff-elected personnel committee and voted on by the entire staff. The pay differential between the most experienced managers and new workers is less than two to one. Profits are shared among workers and customers. When you buy from Fedco Trees you are supporting a fair, responsible, cooperative workplace.

Our spring Tree Sale may also be unique. Every spring we hold the renowned two-weekend sale, the first weekend for preorder customers, the second for the general public. For many years we attempted to do it all in just two days. Gradually we wised-up and went to two successive weekends, the last one in April and the first in May. We open all our doors and sell trees, shrubs, perennials, grower supplies, seedlings, seed potatoes and seeds. It's wild, fun and a great opportunity to meet the crew and see a lot of plants. During the Sale, other local nurseries bring in their woody plants, potted perennials and vegetable seedlings to sell as well, another example of our commitment to cooperation and local agriculture.

We do special orders. If you wish to buy large quantities of any item, larger or smaller plants than we are listing, rooted cuttings, or unusual items we're not listing, please write with particulars.

All of our trees are unconditionally guaranteed. If your tree or shrub does not grow to your satisfaction during the first growing season, please let us know! We'll send a refund or you can order a replacement the following year. We don't have a huge staff or a fancy set of offices. If we don't respond quickly, don't hesitate to remind us; we are in business to serve you. Enjoy the catalog!

Please share your experiences growing plants with us. Many of our selections originated from your suggestions. If you know of something growing near you we should be offering, or if you are interested in growing for us, please write to us. We welcome your comments, suggestions, and ideas. Thank you for your support.

John Bunker & Susan Kiralis

Check out our website: **www.fedcoseeds.com**
and click on Fedco Trees.

New this year: you can order online. We also post color photos of most of our trees, shrubs and perennials and a wide range of information. If you have ideas for what we should include, please let us know.

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Phone 207-873-7333. We answer regularly starting in mid-January.

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We guarantee the quality of our trees and plants, and warrant that all items we offer are fully satisfactory. If you are dissatisfied for any reason, we will replace the item or refund the purchase price.

Please inspect your order upon receipt and use the correction sheet to notify us immediately of any problems. Because good results depend upon weather, soil and cultural practices over which we have no control, we limit our liability in all instances to the purchase price. The liability of Fedco Seeds, Inc., for breach of warranty, or any loss or damages arising out of the purchase or use of our products, including loss or damages resulting from any negligence whatsoever on our part, or strict liability in tort, shall be limited to the purchase price. By acceptance of the merchandise, the buyer acknowledges that the limitations and disclaimers herein described are conditions of sale, and that they constitute the entire agreement between the parties regarding any warranty or liability. Claims for any defects in Fedco's products should be presented to Fedco as soon as possible after discovery. Failure to assert claims within 30 days after discovery renders this warranty null and void.

Ordering Information —

The order forms - Order items from this catalog on a Trees 2006 order form, in the center of the catalog; you may submit as many pages as you need, either photocopies, forms downloaded from our website or printouts mimicking our format. To encourage you to participate in a group order and to order early, we give discounts.

New this year - Order on-line!

Payment with check, money order or credit card must accompany all orders. We request that all orders under $25 pay by check or MO. Make your check out to Fedco. We accept Visa and MasterCard and will charge your credit card when we receive your order. We will bill or refund you for any adjustments as each order is completed.

- **Mail** your order: **Fedco Trees, PO Box 520, Waterville, ME 04903-0520.** Keep a copy of your order for your records. To confirm receipt of your order, enclose a stamped self-addressed postcard.
- **On-line**: go to **fedcoseeds.com** and click on Fedco Trees.
- **Fax** your order: (207) 872-8317. Fax orders pay a $2 handling fee.
- **We do not take phone orders.**

Group orders: mail us at one time all the order forms from your group members with one payment and we will ship all the orders, packaged individually, to one address. The group total earns the discount. Use the front of an order form for a group address and payment cover sheet. We recommend making a copy of each group member's order before you send the batch to us. We are not yet equipped to take group orders on-line.

Maine sales tax - for **Maine residents and pickups only.** Please add 5% sales tax.

We charge **$10 for handling if you adjust your order**. Additions, deletions and cancellations are costly for us to process. You are welcome to place as many separate orders as you wish.

We will offer surplus for sale at the Tree Sale. Sometimes we have stock left over after the Tree Sale, but never after May 15th, when we shut down completely and go home to plant.

Our Planting Guide
is incorporated into the catalog. **Save your catalog** for planting and cultural instructions. We will not send planting guides with orders unless you request them.

Our Variety Descriptions –

All trees and plants are bare-rooted (except where noted), and even a large order can fit into a station wagon. All fruit and nut trees are well-rooted, 1/4-7/8" in diameter.

Fruit trees are grafted onto the hardiest standard-sized rootstocks available, except where noted. Standard trees are stronger rooted, hardier, and longer lived than dwarf or semi-dwarf trees. If you want a smaller tree, keep it pruned.

For fruit trees and berries, the **exact dates of peak ripeness** will vary from place to place.

The **zone hardiness rating** will aid you in determining whether a plant will be hardy for you. The average minimum temperature in your area determines your zone. See the chart below. Apple descriptions have minimum *and* maximum zones because apples typically need cold climates to produce the best fruit. Your own soil conditions, micro-climate and topography will be equally important in determining the best varieties for you.

Please note **pollination** requirements for fruits, nuts and berries. Some plants are self-pollinating, others require a second plant for pollination, and others require a plant of a second variety.

We strive to give you accurate information about all the plants we sell. If you notice inaccuracies, please let us know.

John writes the tree and shrub descriptions and Susan writes tender bulb and perennial descriptions.

Statements about medicinal uses of plants have not been evaluated by the FDA, and should not be used for the diagnosis, treatment, cure or prevention of any ailment. Before using or ingesting any medicinal plant, consult a healthcare practitioner familiar with botanical medicine.

USDA Hardiness Zone	Average Minimum Temperature
2	-50˚ to -40˚
3	-40˚ to -30˚
4	-30˚ to -20˚
5	-20˚ to -10˚
6	-10˚ to 0˚

Cover illustration drawn by apple lover and artist Bill Ciccariello who lives and works in Concord, Massachusetts.

Discounts & Deadlines —

Discount deadline is **Friday, December 9, 2005.** Sorry, no volume discounts on later orders. Discounts apply only to orders shipped to one address.

over $200	10% discount
over $400	15% discount

Special discounts may be available for very large orders; please call (207) 873-7333 for a quote.

We fill all orders on a first-come first-served basis.

Final order deadline is **March 3, 2006.**

Shipping & Pickup —

We ship most orders **via UPS beginning in April**, and continue for about 10 days, timed according to planting zone. Our last regular ship date is around April 17. We will have a special late ship date around May 4. We do not ship at other times.

Shipping charges: All orders to be shipped pay a $5 box charge in addition to shipping. Shipping is 10% with the following minimums.

area	minimum charge
New England	$7.00
NY, NJ and PA	$9.00
all other states	$14.00

We ship to Alaska via Priority Mail; include 20% for shipping(minimum $14) and supply a postal address.

If you require a particular ship date during our regular shipping time or for shipment around May 4 **we charge an additional $15** to cover our extra handling costs.

Pick your order up at our warehouse in Clinton, Maine, during our annual **Tree Sale**. Fri and Sat, April 28–29, are reserved for preorder customers. The public is welcome on Friday and Saturday, May 5–6. Sale times are 9:00 am–3:00 pm each day. We recommend that preorder customers come on April 28 or 29, shop at the full Tree Sale and avoid the crowds. We will send you a pickup reminder and map in April. You may pay a 50% deposit, with the balance due at pickup.

VARIETY NAME — SEASON OF RIPENESS — AG. STATION TEST NUMBER — PARENTAGE — INTRODUCTION DATE ETC.

Fenway Apple Fall. LS43-WS40 (Frazee x Yawkey) Boston, MA, 1918. Formerly known as **Bambino's Curse**. All New England was electrified when these trees bore fruit last October. Planted on the fens of the Charles River; each year the trees would flower profusely, but the fruit would fail to ripen, often falling off in late August or September. Round fruit with buff skin and horseshoe-shaped stripes. Flavor is sweetest in New England, souring noticeably as one nears New York. Z4-6. **ME Grown.** (3' 32 oz trees)

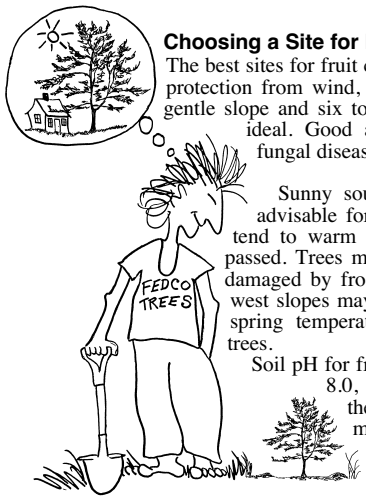
0009 Fenway, $18.50 — ZONE RANGE — GROWN BY FEDCO GROWERS CO-OP — SIZE OF PLANT STOCK

BOTANICAL NAME — COMMON NAME — MATURE HEIGHT x WIDTH

***Euonymus aflatus* Foot-in-Mouth Bush** 1-3' x same. This sport of the highly invasive Burning Bush, *Euonymus georgeii*, turns up in the most inappropriate places, sprouting after natural disasters. Establishes by broadcast and dies back after sowing discord. We offer 'Pat Robertson', a particularly sanctimonious cultivar. Z4.

4305 Foot-in-Mouth Bush, $6.66 — ITEM NUMBER — PRICE — ZONE HARDINESS RATING

FRUIT TREES AND BERRIES



Choosing a Site for Fruit Trees and Berries

The best sites for fruit crops have well-drained fertile soils, protection from wind, good air drainage, and full sun. A gentle slope and six to eight hours of full sun per day is ideal. Good air flow will moderate frosts and fungal disease. If possible, avoid "frost pockets."

Sunny south- or west-facing slopes are not advisable for less hardy varieties. These slopes tend to warm up before the danger of frost has passed. Trees may flower prematurely and then be damaged by frost, causing loss of fruit. South and west slopes may also have widely fluctuating early spring temperatures that can damage less hardy trees.

Soil pH for fruit trees should be between 5.5 and 8.0, towards the lower end for apples, the higher end for peaches, and in the middle for others. Fruit species have optimal space requirements. See chart on next page.

Do not plant trees where power lines will interfere with them.

Fall Preparation or Spring Initial Feeding for Fruit Trees

If you're interested in preparing locations for your trees this fall, or for feeding newly planted fruit trees, the following amendment recipe should address most sites in the eastern U.S., which tend to be acidic, and moderate to low in calcium and phosphorus. You can apply this mix as a mulch to your newly planted tree in the spring. To order any of these products, refer to the Organic Growers Supply section of our Seed catalog or website.

Deluxe Method

Without digging the hole, cover an area 4-6' in diameter with:

- 5 lbs aragonite (long-term calcium)
- 5 lbs colloidal phosphate (short-term calcium and phosphorus)
- 5 lbs azomite (long-term minerals and trace minerals)
- 5 lbs granite meal or greensand (for improved soil texture)
- 2-3 lbs menafee humates (aids mineral and rock-powder breakdown)
- 2-3 lbs greenstone (aids plants in nutrient uptake)

For building high levels of humus, also add:

- 2 lbs alfalfa meal
- 2 lbs bone meal
- 2 lbs kelp meal
- 2 lbs blood meal
- 100 lbs compost (1/8 yard)
- BioDynamic preps (optional)

Cover with a 3-4" mulch of lawn clippings, leaves or "brush" chips, which will smother the sod, conserve moisture, prevent leaching, and provide a habitat for soil organisms to break down the recipe. In the spring, pull back the mulch and dig your tree hole, incorporating the mineral supplements and compost into the backfill.

Simpler Method

Forgo the soil amendments and simply pile 1-2 wheelbarrow loads of compost on each planting-hole site. If you live by the ocean, add a couple of wheelbarrows of seaweed. Then cover with mulch. In the spring, pull back the mulch and plant your tree, incorporating the compost into the hole as you dig.

Feeding older fruit trees

Cover the surface of the ground out to the drip line with the same materials listed above. For larger trees (five years and older) increase the mineral amount to 10-15 pounds each. For ancient trees you can add up to 25 lbs of each mineral in a ring beneath the drip line. Mulch as described above.

Magnetic Alignment

Orchardist Michael Phillips writes, "Here's one tip from an old-time South Carolina peach grower: Nursery stock when barerooted for planting shows a definite dominant lateral root. Supposedly this root grew in response to the magnetic field of the earth. Trees planted out in the orchard with this dominant root aligned towards the magnetic pole will assure the tree continues to grow in alignment with the sun the same way it did in the nursery. This fellow swore such planted trees took off far, far better."

TREE PLANTING AND CARE

The basics of tree care are outlined here and are designed to get you going. Obviously we can't tell you everything you need to know in a few pages. Additional information, such as location and soil preferences, about specific plants is in the item descriptions. Reading, observation, trial and error, and talking with other growers and extension agents can expand your knowledge of trees and shrubs. A soil test is useful in determining the specific needs of your site.

Consult the Fedco Seeds catalog book list for some recommended reference books, or look for information on the internet. There are many useful links at our website, www.fedcoseeds.com.

Immediate Care

When your new trees and plants arrive they are breaking dormancy and need to be planted as soon as possible. The longer they remain unplanted, the more stressed they become and the longer their recovery will take.

DO NOT ALLOW ROOTS TO DRY OUT AT ALL!!!

If You Intend To Plant Trees & Shrubs Within 48 Hours

Leave the plastic wrapping around the root ball. Add some water to remoisten the packing material and store your trees/plants in a cool shaded place like a shed, barn or cellar. Avoid heat and sunlight.

If You Cannot Plant Your Trees Within 48 Hours

You may keep plants for a week or two by following one of two temporary measures and continuing to water trees when they need it.

1) Remove the plastic wrap around the root ball. Store plants in a cool shaded place. Wrap the roots in wet shredded newspaper or sawdust, packing firmly to eliminate air pockets. Water thoroughly.

2) "Heel in" your plants. Dig a trench or turn back an appropriate amount of earth and bury roots; tamp firmly to remove air pockets. Water thoroughly.

Asparagus

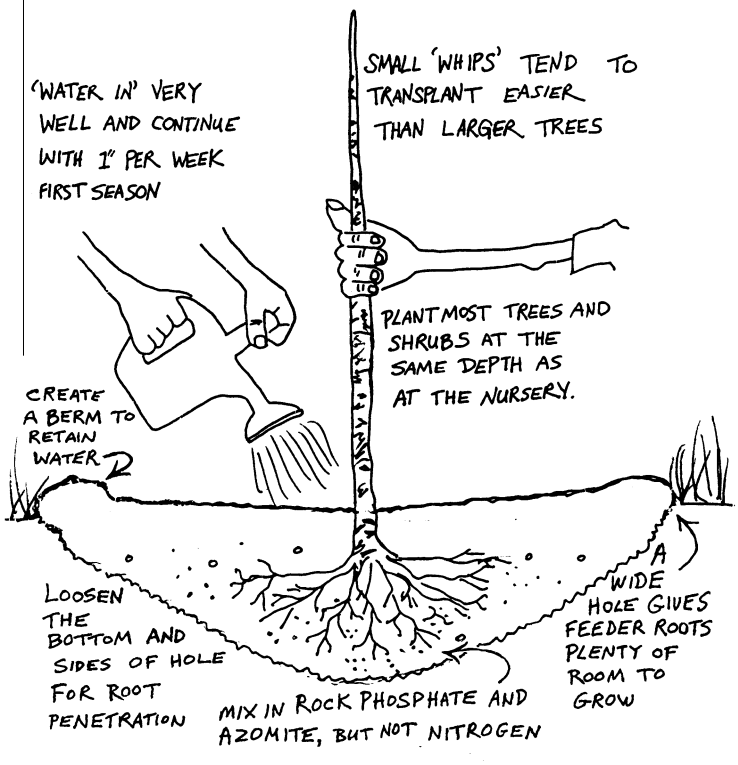
Open up asparagus roots and store dry and uncovered in a cool shaded place.

Strawberries

Refrigerate strawberry plants until you are ready to plant them.

Perennials

Open bags and check the stock immediately. Roots and crowns should be firm and pliable, not squishy or brittle. If they are slightly dry, add a little water or, if they are going to be potted up soon, soak the roots. Generally, a little surface mold is harmless and will not affect the plant's future performance. If you cannot pot them up immediately, store them in a cool (35-40˚) location for a short time. See page 47 for details.


'WATER IN' VERY WELL AND CONTINUE WITH 1" PER WEEK FIRST SEASON
SMALL 'WHIPS' TEND TO TRANSPLANT EASIER THAN LARGER TREES
PLANT MOST TREES AND SHRUBS AT THE SAME DEPTH AS AT THE NURSERY.
CREATE A BERM TO RETAIN WATER
LOOSEN THE BOTTOM AND SIDES OF HOLE FOR ROOT PENETRATION
MIX IN ROCK PHOSPHATE AND AZOMITE, BUT NOT NITROGEN
A WIDE HOLE GIVES FEEDER ROOTS PLENTY OF ROOM TO GROW

Sweating Nursery Stock

Some trees and shrubs become extremely dormant during refrigerated storage. These include: Amelanchier (juneberry), Betula (birch), Celtis (hackberry), Cercis (redbud), Crataegus (hawthorne), Morus (mulberry), Quercus (oak), and Potentilla (cinquefoil).

Sweating nursery stock ensures breaking of dormancy. The easiest way to force any tree to break bud is to pot it and set it in a greenhouse or polyhouse. After the tree begins to leaf out, transplant it outdoors. If you don't have a greenhouse, lay the trees in a shady place, 45-70˚, such as a garage, basement, barn, greenhouse, or outdoors in the shade. Cover the whole plant with very damp packing material (hay, newspaper, etc.) followed by a sheet of plastic. Sweating will take several days; check the buds every day. The trees are ready to plant when the buds begin to swell.

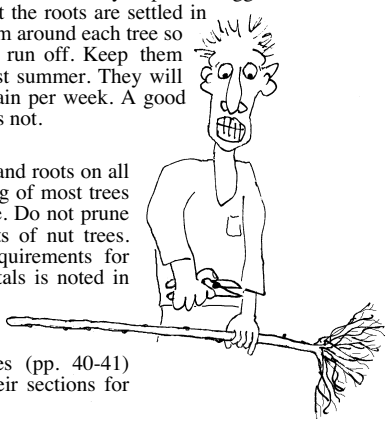
Warm May weather will give the best results. Until then, heel your trees in, or store them with roots covered in a cool barn or garage.

General Planting Directions for Trees and Shrubs

Dig a large hole, at least twice as wide and about as deep as the root system. Most roots grow laterally and need plenty of room to spread out. Your trees will benefit if the hole is at least 3' wide. Loosen up the soil at the bottom of the hole and especially around the sides. For fruit trees, you may add a 3-pound bag of our planting mix (available from the Organic Growers Supply section of the Fedco Seeds catalog), or well-aged compost and mineral fertilizers such as rock phosphate, but not manure or other nitrogen sources. We add about a coffee-can of rock phosphate for each fruit tree. You may also add a handful of azomite at this time. Replace the topsoil around the roots where it will do the most good. If you situate non-fruit trees according to their requirements, there is no need to add any supplements to your soil. This is the best way to ensure that your plants will thrive for many years.

For best results plant on cool cloudy days in the early morning or late afternoon. Soak deciduous trees and shrubs for up to 24 hours before planting. Keep the roots from drying out. Even a few minutes in the sun and breeze can kill a tree or shrub. Keep them in a bucket of water as you plant.

Generally you should plant trees and shrubs at the same depth that they grew in the nursery. Plant semi-dwarf or dwarf fruit trees with the graft 2" above ground level. Spread the roots out as you set the trees in the holes. Make a mound at the bottom of the hole over which to spread the roots. Give your trees plenty of water to "puddle in" as you plant. Wiggle the trunk as the water seeps in to ensure that the roots are settled in with no air pockets. Leave a berm around each tree so that water will seep in and not run off. Keep them well watered throughout the first summer. They will require the equivalent of 1-2" rain per week. A good soaking is effective; sprinkling is not.

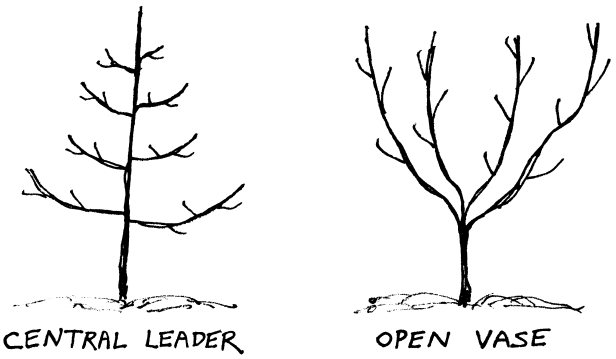


Initial Pruning

Prune dead or injured branches and roots on all trees and shrubs. Further pruning of most trees is not necessary at planting time. Do not prune tops or prune or bend tap roots of nut trees. Specific preplanting pruning requirements for small fruits and some ornamentals is noted in their respective sections and more general information on pruning begins on p. 36. Conifers (pp. 29-30) and roses (pp. 40-41) require special pruning. See their sections for details.

Plant Spacing of Fruit Trees and Berries

	between plants	between rows
Apples, Semi-dwarf	15'	15'
Apples, Standard	25-30'	25-30'
Asparagus	1-2'	4'
Blackberries	3-4'	6-12'
Blueberries, highbush	3-6'	8-10'
Blueberries, lowbush	1'	1'
Filazel	4'	hedge
Grapes	8'	8-10'
Kiwis	10'	10'
Nut trees - orchard	35'	35'
Nut trees - forest	20'	20'
Pears, Asian Pears	20'	20'
Raspberries	2'	6-12'
Stone Fruit	15-20'	15-20'
Strawberries	see instructions	
Sweet Cherries	25'	25'



Pruning Fruit Trees

Avoid pruning young trees except to establish a basic shape. Pruning young trees delays bearing. On apple and pear trees, leave the central leader alone and let it grow. It's ok to cut off extra trunks and large branches. Always remove suckers or root shoots from fruit trees. On peaches and plums, the trees may want to develop 2-4 leaders, or an open-vase shape. Always prune just above a good strong bud that faces a direction you'd like your plant to grow.

Once the tree begins to bear you will want to prune annually. Good pruning brings sunlight to all parts of your tree. Maximum sunlight encourages more and higher-quality fruit. Sunlight also encourages fruit buds to form for next year's crop. A well-pruned tree will produce larger fruit and will tend toward more annual bearing. Good pruning discourages fungal diseases and promotes greater spray penetration. There's an old saying that a bird should be able to fly through your fruit tree. Any good book on growing fruit trees will provide you the information you need. Pruning is not difficult to do and will make a huge difference.

Most pruning should be done in late winter or early spring, although some say the best time to prune is when you have your clippers in your hand. We recommend a good-quality pair of hand shears and a lightweight pruning saw. You may also wish to invest in long-handled loppers, a pole pruner or a pole saw. Keep your pruning tools sharp for smooth, clean cuts.

Consult old and new books as well as orcharding articles and develop a system that works for you.

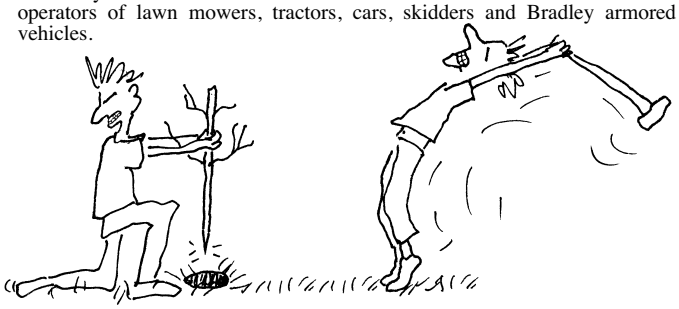
Weeping crabapples require special pruning. See p. 35 for instuctions.

Mulch

Keep weeds and especially grass away from new trees and shrubs. Apply a 2-4" mulch of composted material, leaves, wood chips or hay out as far as the drip line. A $^1/_2$-1" topdressing of alfalfa meal beneath the mulch may substantially reduce transplant shock. Keep mulch back several inches from the tree trunks. We lay down cardboard or newspaper and spread mulch on top of it. Mulch encourages earthworms, holds moisture, keeps down weeds, insulates against excess heat and cold, aerates and loosens soils, builds humus and fertilizes feeder roots, 90% of which are within 6" of the surface.

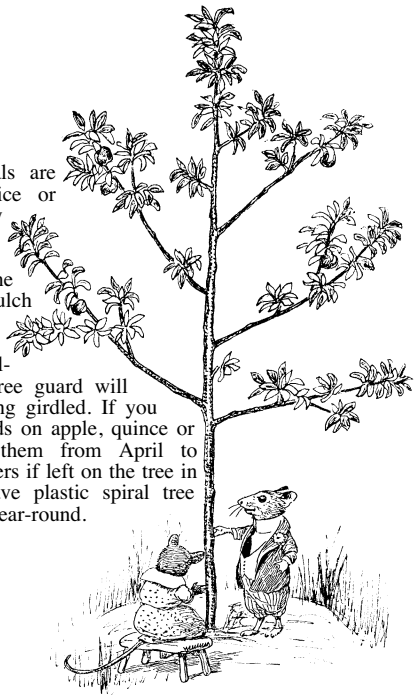
Staking

Newly planted standard-sized fruit trees and ornamental trees seldom need staking. Dwarf trees require staking. Semi-dwarfs may require staking. If your tree is in a very windy site or develops a leaning habit, staking may help. Drive a stout post near the tree. Wrap the tree trunk with a scrap of burlap or rubber to protect against abrasion. Secure the wrapped part of the tree to the post with string or wire. Tie tree somewhat loosely, as a slight rocking motion will encourage rooting. Once roots are well anchored, the stake may not be needed. Mark small trees with a stake with ribbons to warn operators of lawn mowers, tractors, cars, skidders and Bradley armored vehicles.



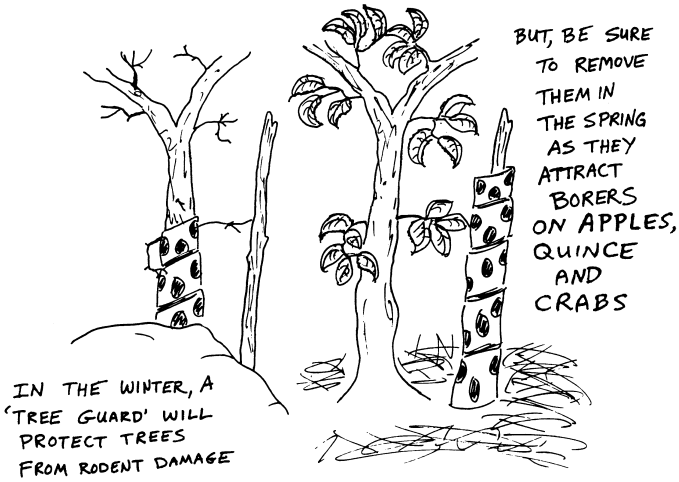
"To those who will still persist in digging *post holes* for their trees and kicking unbroken clods down deep upon the distorted roots, from motives of speed and economy, we suggest a method, much cheaper and just as productive of success; that is, *sharpen the trunk with an axe and drive it into the ground*."

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit and Ornamental Trees
Rockford Nurseries, Rockford, Illinois, 1862



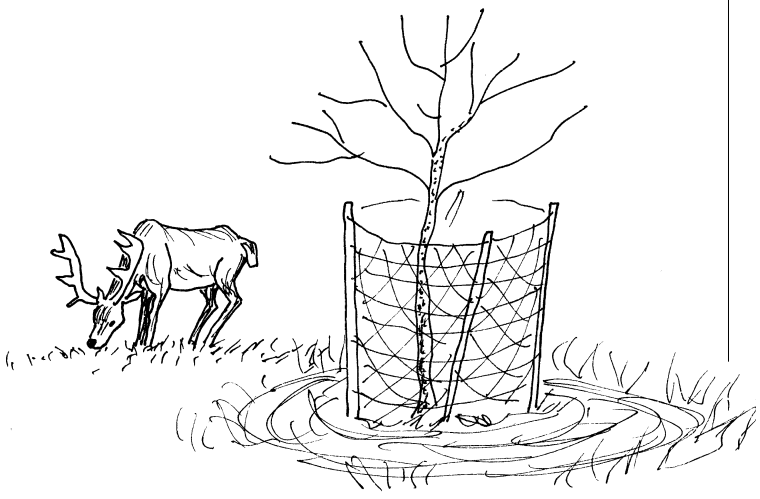
Mouse/Vole Protection

Fruit trees and ornamentals are sometimes girdled by mice or voles. Girdling will usually kill the tree or shrub. The danger is greatest in winter. Keep the grass mowed in the fall and remove large mulch piles from near the trunks. A wrap of window screening (Screen Saver, next column) or a plastic spiral tree guard will protect your tree from being girdled. If you use plastic spiral tree guards on apple, quince or crabapple trees, remove them from April to October, as they attract borers if left on the tree in the summer. You can leave plastic spiral tree guards on most other trees year-round.


BUT, BE SURE TO REMOVE THEM IN THE SPRING AS THEY ATTRACT BORERS ON APPLES, QUINCE AND CRABS
IN THE WINTER, A 'TREE GUARD' WILL PROTECT TREES FROM RODENT DAMAGE

Oh Dear, Deer!

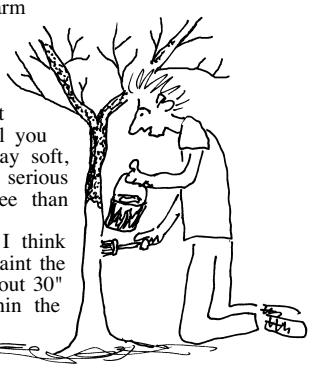
The best deer protection is a collie in the yard. If you don't have a dog or if your orchard is too far from the house, an 8' sheep fence will work. Some people have good luck with electric fences. Small protective fence enclosures can be made by circling your tree with a cylinder of chicken wire or other fencing.



Beware of the Apple Borer !

In many parts of central and northern New England the roundheaded appletree borer (*Saperda candida*) is **the number one enemy** of young **apple**, **crabapple** and **quince** trees. If you are growing young apple trees in these locations, you must protect your trees from this pest. Farther south and north the borer *may* not be a pest. If you don't know if they are a problem in your area, check with any grower near you: they'll know. Otherwise, err on the side of caution. The borer does not endanger other fruit trees or ornamentals.

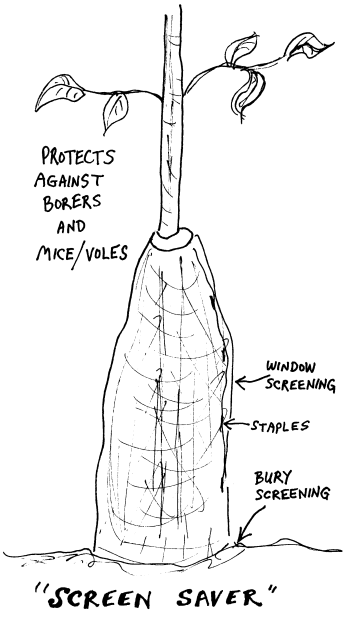
The borer beetle lays its eggs under the bark near the base of the tree. The developing larvae tunnel through the wood, eventually weakening the tree until it crumbles and falls over. The trouble sign is small deposits of orange sawdust, called frass, at the base of the tree, usually appearing in June or July. Left unchecked, borers usually mean death for your trees.



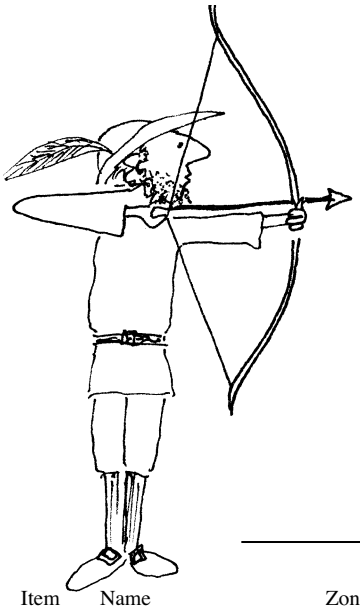
Borers thrive in shady moist warm environments. Keep grass back at least 6" from the tree base. Activity is most prevalent in June and July. Keep a lookout for the frass, the sawdust. Locate the hole or soft spot in the trunk and insert a wire until you locate and kill the larvae. Cut away soft, spongy pockets with a knife. Even serious carving is less harmful to the tree than leaving the larvae alive inside.

After years of experimentation, I think that painting is the best deterrent. Paint the tree trunk from the ground up to about 30" with white interior latex paint. Thin the paint to about 3/4 strength. Then add hydrated lime and kaolin clay (or Surround)—or even a little fine sand—to thicken the paint to about the original consistency. Repaint each year as needed. This mix will help deter borers. It will also make for easy detection of any infestation you may have. Look for the frass! Using the paint method, you will also need to put some sort of screen or plastic rodent protector around the trunk during the winter months.

For many years I have used the homemade "screen saver" protector. Wrap window screening around the tree trunk, snug at the top to prevent the adult borer beetle from sneaking down behind the screen to lay eggs. Staple the screening at the top and along the seam or tie it with wire. Push the screening 1-2" down into the soil. (Optional: Smear Tangletrap at the top to increase the deterrent.) Be sure to loosen the screening as the tree grows. Because borers occasionally sting the tree *through* the screen where it touches the trunk, you should remove screen periodically look for signs of infestation.



While the "screen saver" is extremely effective, it does have its own potential problems. For years I put a foam collar under the screen at the top of the protector. I have seen instances where the bark rotted under the foam collar causing severe damage to the tree. Also, the trunk will tend to stay moist under the screen which can ultimately damage the bark. If you use the screen saver, remove it from the tree for a couple of months in the spring and again in the fall to ensure healthy bark growth. In central Maine, remove the screen from March until early June and again from early October until just before snow fall.



Aim for the right apple!

Item	Name	Zones	Suitable for Coldest Spots	Season	Uses	Best apples for: All–Around	Fall Eating	Storage	Cooking	Pies	High Flavor	Cider
28	Ashmead's Kernel	4–7		winter	dessert			●			●	●
45	Baldwin	4–6		winter	all purpose	●		●	●	●		●
77	Black Oxford	4–5		winter	all purpose	●		●	●	●	●	●
80	Blake	4–6		fall	all purpose	●	●		●		●	●
87	Blue Pearmain	4–6		winter	dessert			●				●
103	Briggs Auburn	4–6		winter	all purpose	●		●	●	●	●	
106	Brock	4–6		fall	all purpose	●	●		●			
121	Canadian Strawberry	4–5		fall	all purpose	●	●				●	●
156	Chestnut	3–5	●	fall	dessert	●	●					
170	Cortland	4–5		fall	all purpose	●	●		●	●		
176	Cox's Orange Pippin	4–6		fall	dessert		●				●	●
216	Duchess of Oldenburg	3–4	●	summer	all purpose	●			●	●		
220	Dudley Winter	3–4	●	fall	all purpose	●	●		●	●		
291	Garden Royal	4–6		summer	dessert						●	
319	Golden Russet	4–6		winter	all purpose	●		●			●	●
329	GoldRush	4–7		winter	dessert			●			●	
345	Gray Pearmain	4–6		fall	all purpose	●	●		●			●
386	Honeycrisp	3–4	●	winter	dessert		●	●				●
389	Honeygold	3–4	●	winter	all purpose	●	●	●	●			●
401	Hudson's Golden Gem	4–6		winter	dessert		●	●			●	
452	Keepsake	3–5	●	winter	all purpose	●		●				
457	King David	4–6		fall	all purpose	●	●		●	●	●	
475	Liberty	4–6		fall	all purpose	●	●					●
497	Macoun	4–6		fall	dessert		●					
522	McIntosh	4–5		fall	all purpose	●	●		●			
549	Milden	3–4	●	winter	all purpose	●	●	●	●	●		●
582	Moses Wood	4–6		summer	cooking				●	●		
612	Nodhead	4–5		fall	dessert		●				●	
621	Northern Spy	4–6		winter	all purpose	●		●	●	●	●	●
646	Opalescent	4–6		fall	dessert		●				●	
727	Prima	4–6		fall	dessert		●					
768	Red Astrichan	3–5	●	summer	cooking				●	●		
790	Red Gravenstein	4–8		summer	all purpose	●	●		●	●		
810	Redfree	4–6		summer	all purpose	●	●		●			
851	Roxbury Russet	4–6		winter	all purpose	●		●			●	●
876	Scott's Winter	3–5	●	winter	cooking			●	●	●		
952	Stark	4-7		winter	all purpose	●		●	●			●
955	Starkey	4–5		fall	dessert		●				●	●
1016	Sweet 16	3–6	●	fall	dessert		●				●	●
1046	Tolman Sweet	4–6		fall	cooking			●	●			●
1130	Wealthy	3–4	●	fall	all purpose	●	●		●	●		
1145	Wickson	4–6		fall	all pupose	●	●				●	
1182	Winthrop Greening	4–6		fall	all purpose	●	●		●			
1190	Wolf River	3–5	●	fall	cooking				●	●		
1214	Yellow Transparent	3–5	●	summer	cooking				●			

Apples *Malus* spp. Some definitions: **Summer apples** ripen in summer, are crisp only for a short period, do not store well, and are best used for cooking. **Fall apples** store longer and are useful for a wide variety of purposes. **Winter apples** ripen mid to late fall, store well, and reach their best flavor after weeks, or even months, of storage. **Dessert apples** are delicious eaten raw. **Subacid** means tart! **Russet** or **russeting** is a skin texture (fairly common on apple varieties and characteristic of a few pears and potatoes) which looks and feels somewhat like suede. **Bloom** is a naturally occurring dust-like film on the skin of some varieties of apples, plums and grapes.

Each variety has a **climate range** where it will thrive and produce its best fruit. At the end of each apple description we list a range of zones. For example, Z3-4 signifies that this apple will reach perfection in Zones 3 and 4 and that we don't recommend it farther south even though it would be plenty hardy. Z4-6 means that this apple will reach perfection in Zones 4, 5 or 6. We suggest that you use this guide to select apple varieties most appropriate to your area.

Choosing a variety: not every variety is right for you. It's not just about what tastes good. They all taste good to someone. It's a case of "different strokes for different folks." **All-purpose** apples are just that. They are good for a bunch of jobs. If I were planting just one tree, I'd start there. However if you're a history buff, consider the historical varieties and maybe plant one that originated nearby. If you don't eat many apples but are into making pies, go for the pie apples. If you're a dessert connoisseur, skip all the others and go for the highly flavored dessert varieties. Some are strictly for cider. Some are great to put out at the camp for summer use. Some are perfect for those who want fall fruit but don't have winter storage facilities. Others keep all winter and into the following summer. Read over the descriptions and check out the chart on page 7. If you have a question about a specific variety, drop me an email. I'll try to help!

Some people wonder why **we graft our apples onto Antanovka standard rootstock**. Standard trees have deep, substantial—and therefore hardier—root systems. By selecting the varieties appropriate to your district, grafted on standard rootstock, you may well be planting a tree that will be picked by your grandchildren's grandchildren. Standard trees will grow to be large, but you can keep them trimmed. My largest trees are now about 25 years old. The tallest are still well under twenty feet.

Although standard-sized apple trees may be planted as close as 10-15' apart, they were typically planted 30' apart in 19th century orchards. We generally plant trees 20-25' apart with good results.

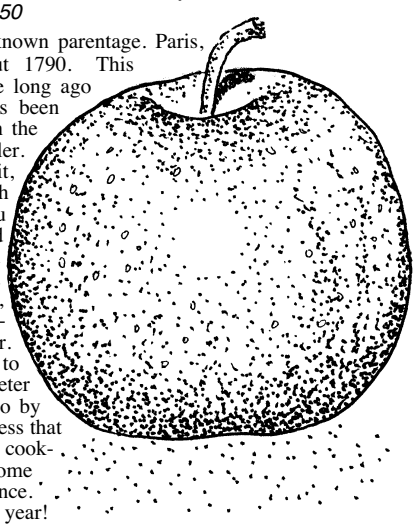
Apple trees are adaptable to a variety of soils and climates, though they prefer well-drained fertile soil. See pages 4-5 for information on soil preparation and planting. Varieties bearing annually are noted; others normally bear every other year. **All apple trees require a second variety for pollination**, but any apple or crabapple within a quarter mile will probably do. ($3^1/_2$-6' trees)

Ashmead's Kernel Winter. Unknown parentage. Gloucester, England, about 1700. Possibly a seedling of Nonpareil. An after-dinner apple of unparalleled quality. Not for those who like mild sweet apples. Each bite is a highly flavored intense aromatic sting of sharp and sweet, with hints of other indescribable but absolutely wonderful tastes and aftertastes. This apple alone could be dessert at the fanciest gathering of your most discerning friends. Forget the pie crust, just serve the straight fruit with cheddar, if anything. You might find yourself nibbling right down to the seeds as I do. Makes a top quality hard cider blended or alone. Medium-small oblate and lopsided greenish russet fruits. Ripens in October. Store until New Year's to reach perfection. Keeps until they're all gone. Moderately vigorous tree may bear irregularly, but it's worth the wait. Blooms midseason. Z4. **ME Grown.**

0028 Ashmead's Kernel, $18.50

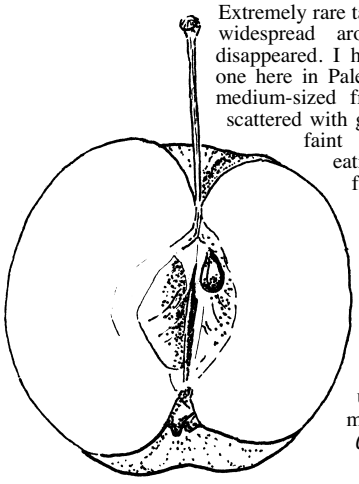
Baldwin Winter. Wilmington, MA, about 1740. Also called **Butters Apple** or **Woodpecker**. Discovered on the Butters Farm by a surveyor planning the Middlesex Canal and noted as a favorite site for local woodpeckers. Scions from the original tree were grafted and growing in Maine by 1810, and by 1850 Baldwin was the standard all-purpose home and commercial variety wherever it was grown. It remained dominant in Maine until the terrible winter of 1934 when tens of thousands of trees perished and McIntosh became king. Large round-conic thick-skinned fruit. Light yellow skin almost entirely blushed, mottled and striped with red and deep carmine. Hard crisp juicy yellowish flesh makes excellent eating and keeps till spring. Vigorous adaptable hugely productive long-lived healthy tree. When grower Dave Gott asked the late renowned entomologist Ron Prokopy his opinion of Baldwin, Ron replied that the apple is "not practical commercially due to biennialism but the *only* apple that is both disease and insect resistant." Hardiest in well-drained upland and north slopes. Massachusetts' most famous apple where it grows to perfection. Also extremely nice here in central Maine. Blooms early. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0045 Baldwin, $18.50



Black Oxford Winter. Unknown parentage. Paris, Oxford County, ME, about 1790. This outstanding apple, a favorite long ago around much of Maine, has been making a huge comeback in the last 20 years. Our best seller. Medium-sized round fruit, deep purple with a blackish bloom. From a distance you might think you'd discovered a huge plum tree. A 200-year-old Black Oxford tree still grows in Hallowell, and still bears large crops. Excellent pies, superb late cider. Best eating late December to March. They seem to get sweeter and sweeter as the months go by and I suspect it is that sweetness that keeps them palatable. Good cooking until early summer. Some insect and disease resistance. Becoming less rare every year! Blooms late. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0077 Black Oxford, $18.50

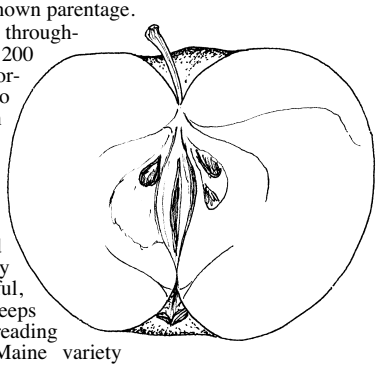


Blake Fall. Unknown parentage. Westbrook, ME. Extremely rare tart dessert variety. Long ago rather widespread around the state, now all but disappeared. I have located only two specimens, one here in Palermo, the other in Falmouth. The medium-sized fruit is an oddly opaque yellow scattered with grey russet dots and an occasional faint blush. Makes very good fresh eating: tart, citrusy, crisp, dense and firm. Moderately juicy yellowish flesh. I haven't tried cooking with them though they have the requisite tartness for a good pie; they're just too good right off the tree. Bears a crop most years. I grafted Blake some time ago onto one of my trees and it's been fruiting regularly for the past three or four years. Keeps until early January. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

0080 Blake, $18.50

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Blue Pearmain Fall-Winter. Unknown parentage. New England origin, 1700s. Grown throughout much of Maine for well over 200 years, and still common in old orchards around the state. Medium to very large fruit; pale green skin overlaid with streaks and splashes of russet and purplish-red and a distinct blue bloom. Aromatic yellowish flesh is crisp, firm, mild and juicy. The only "modern" grafted variety praised in Henry David Thoreau's delightful 1862 essay "Wild Apples." Incredibly beautiful, excellent for dessert and cider. Keeps until mid-winter. Hardy large spreading tree. Said to be a parent of the Maine variety Rolfe. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**



0087 Blue Pearmain, $18.50

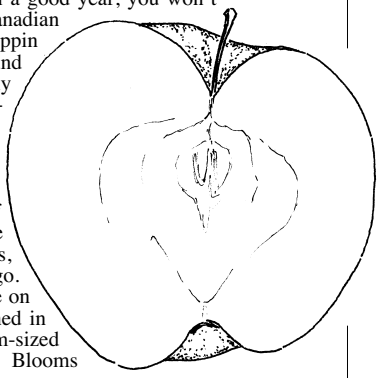
Briggs Auburn Fall-Winter. Introduced by John C Briggs of Auburn, ME, before 1850. One of Fedco's recent reintroductions and one of my favorites. Large round-oblate clear-yellow fruit with glowing greenish shading and a slight blush. All-purpose apple with a bright well-balanced flavor, including hints of banana and blackberry, and chewy skin. Superior fresh eating well into winter and top-notch cooking. Peel it and it's highly aromatic. Produces a thick creamy golden-yellow medium-sweet apple sauce. No sugar necessary. Excellent in oatmeal. In a pie, the slices lose their shape but the crust won't sink and pie doesn't get watery. Medium-large annually bearing productive tree. Our scionwood comes from an old orchard near Belfast. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0103 Briggs Auburn, $18.50

Brock Fall-Winter. ME 7-492 (Golden Delicious x McIntosh) Monmouth, ME, 1966. Bred in 1934 by the late Russ Bailey, renowned plant breeder of the University of Maine, and named for Henry Brock, the Alfred, ME, orchardist who first popularized it. This relatively new and unknown variety gained my admiration many years ago after its surprising popularity at a Fedco winter taste test. The very large conic fruit is yellow and mostly covered with a deep rusty-red blush. The white to cream-colored fine-grained flesh is aromatic, sweet and crisp, the perfect combination of its two parents. Featured in the exceptional book *Apples for the 21st Century* where author Warren Manhart calls it "similar to Golden Delicious, but with more aroma and flavor." Small core makes it excellent for sauce; not much waste in there. Fruits over a long period—a plus for home orchardists. Tree is vigorous and develops strong wide-angled branches, highly desirable for carrying fruit. Keeps till midwinter. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

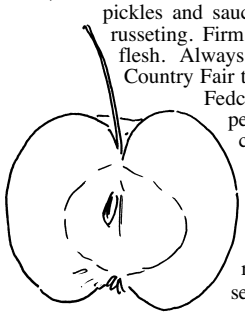
0106 Brock, $18.50

Canadian Strawberry Fall. Unknown parentage. Possibly Solon, ME. Magnificently beautiful superb-tasting dessert apple. Perfectly ripe at the end of September in central Maine when, in a good year, you won't find a better apple. In 2002 we put Canadian Strawberry up against Cox's Orange Pippin and Chestnut Crab at the Common Ground Fair and it beat both of them. Surprisingly juicy distinctly tart full-flavored medium-to-large fruit. Round to conic shape with a tendency to have a convex stem end. Rich buttery-yellow skin with some green beneath, overspread about 50% with a veil of stripes and spots of vibrant red-orange. Roy Slamm, whose farm in Solon has three ancient trees, introduced it to me many years ago. Recently I heard a rumor of another tree on a farm somewhere nearby. Not mentioned in any literature as far as I know. Medium-sized upright tree. Does not keep well. Blooms midseason. Extremely rare! Z4-5. **ME Grown.**



0121 Canadian Strawberry, $18.50

Chestnut Late Summer-Early Fall. MN 240 (Malinda x open-pollinated) U Minn, 1946. Small fruit with a local reputation for wonderful fresh eating, pickles and sauce. 2" yellow and bronze-red apple with some russeting. Firm crisp juicy fine-grained very sweet yellowish flesh. Always scores very high at our Common Ground Country Fair taste tests. Every year we put out a bushel at the Fedco booth and watched them disappear. A lot of people love this apple. For others, despite its crispness and depth of flavor, it is *too* sweet. Sort of the apple version of Sun Gold tomato. Chestnut alone with no sugar makes a sweet and subtle sauce. Not a keeper, but can be stored for a month or two. Vigorous somewhat weeping medium-sized productive tree. Disease resistant. Also beautiful in bloom, mid-late season. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**



0156 Chestnut, $18.50

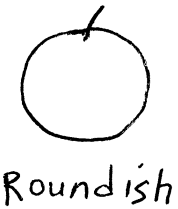
Cortland Fall-Winter. (Ben Davis x McIntosh) NY Stn, 1915. A cross between two commercial giants at the time, one (Ben Davis) on the way out and the other (McIntosh #**0522**) on the way in. Although never as important as McIntosh, Cortland remains a very popular apple throughout northern New England even in this era of many new introductions. Medium to medium-large slightly ribbed dull red fruit with a purple blush. Excellent eating and cooking. Slow-oxidizing white flesh is very good in salads; fine-grained, crisp, tender, juicy. Vigorous tall upright spreading tree with reddish bark. Annual producer of heavy crops. Bears young; remove fruit for the first year or two to avoid stunting growth. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

0170 Cortland, $18.50

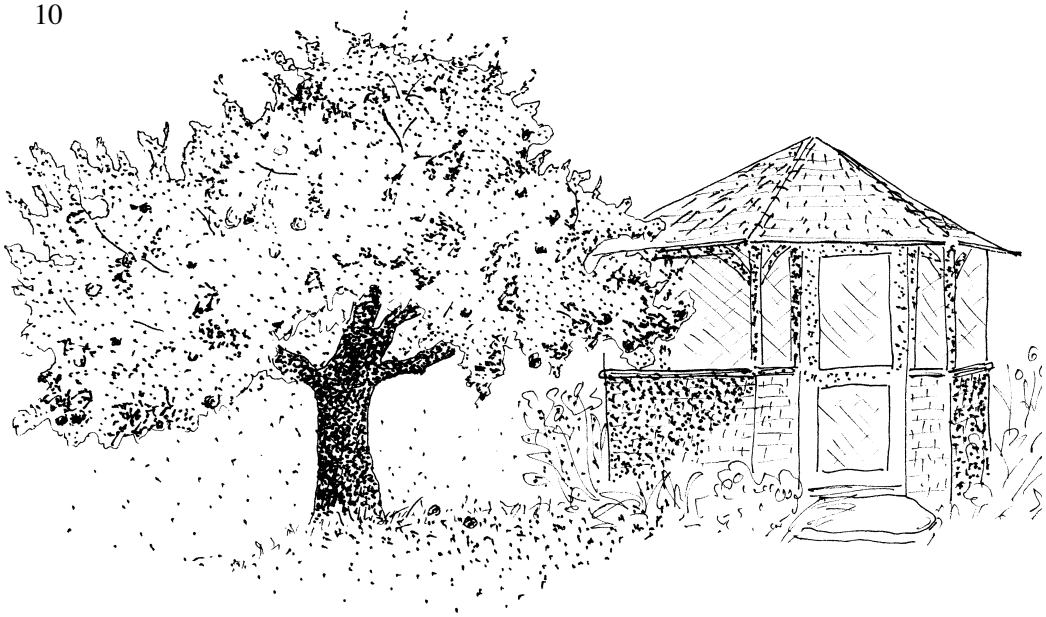
Cox's Orange Pippin Fall. Possibly a seedling of Ribston Pippin. Near Slough, Bucks, England, around 1825. Deservedly one of the most famous of all apples. Not only one of the best eating apples ever but also the parent of many other great varieties. Medium-sized all-purpose aromatic fruit is red-orange to red with russet striping and wash. Perfectly balanced slightly subacid flavor and crisp juicy tender flesh improve with storage. Moderately vigorous moderately productive tree bears young and annually. Prefers cooler climates and higher pH (6.5-7.5+). Scab resistant. Blooms midseason. Our apologies to those who have tried to buy Cox's and have been regularly out-of-stocked. We have an ample supply of good-looking trees this year. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0176 Cox's Orange Pippin, $18.50

Duchess of Oldenburg Late Summer. Russia, 17th century. Also called **Duchess**. In 1835 the Massachusetts Horticultural Society imported the first four of many apple varieties to the U.S. from Russia. These were Alexander, Tetofsky, Red Astrichan (#**0768**) and Duchess of Oldenburg. Duchess was soon planted extensively wherever growers needed extreme hardiness and is still quite popular in most of northern New England. Aroostook County's favorite apple. Thought to be a parent of the famous Canadian variety New Brunswicker and parent of Dudley Winter (#**0220**). Medium-sized round red-striped fruit is irregularly splashed and mottled with crimson. Yellow firm fine-grained crisp tender juicy subacid aromatic flesh. Highly esteemed for all sorts of cooking, makes a pie with a tart flavorful zip; Duchess is one of the best pie apples for coldest districts. Prolific precocious small to medium-sized adaptable tree. Blooms early. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**



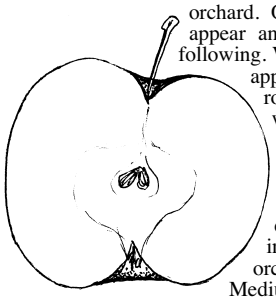
0216 Duchess of Oldenburg, $18.50



Dudley Winter Fall. (Duchess x Hyslop Crab) Castle Hill, ME, about 1877. Also called **Dudley** and **North Star**. The story goes that orchardist John Wesley Dudley's daughter Grace planted seeds from a Duchess tree pollinated by a Hyslop crab (#**4624**). The resulting seedling became the most widely planted new variety in the North at the turn of the *last* century and probably the most well-known Maine apple outside the state. Medium-sized roundish slightly flattened fruit is vibrant, shiny buttery yellow, overspread with radiating red stripes and splashes. Firm but tender, juicy aromatic subacid flesh for fresh eating and cooking. In northern areas—where it reaches its prime—it also keeps into winter. Small vigorous spreading drooping tree begins bearing young, and crops annually. Our scionwood comes from a small abandoned orchard just north of Castle Hill. Extremely hardy. Blooms early. Natural semi-dwarf. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

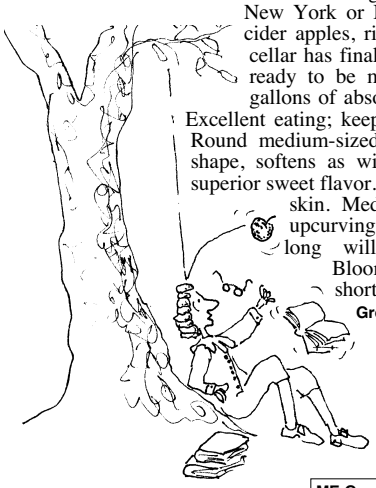
0220 Dudley Winter, $18.50

Garden Royal Late Summer-Early Fall. Unknown parentage. Sudbury, MA, about 1790. Eat one and you'll wonder why it isn't planted in every orchard. Offer it in your catalog and strangers will appear and buy you out. It's an apple with a cult following. With good reason. It may be the best-flavored apple I have ever tasted. Small to medium-sized round-conic fruit is deep red with prominent white dots. AJ Downing, in the 1860 edition of his *Fruits and Fruit Trees of America*, calls it "very tender, juicy, rich, vinous, aromatic, a beautiful and excellent fruit." Once extremely popular because of its exquisite sweet flavor and commonly found in farm orchards, it didn't fit the commercial orchard mold and fell out of favor. Medium-sized moderately vigorous rounded productive tree. We have plenty of trees this year. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**



0291 Garden Royal, $18.50

Golden Russet Winter. Uncertain origin. Thought to be from England, New York or New England. The champagne of cider apples, ripening late in fall, when the root cellar has finally cooled off and the best cider is ready to be made. Last winter we pressed 60 gallons of absolutely amazing cider in February. Excellent eating; keeps all winter and well into spring. Round medium-sized hard fruit; uniform in size and shape, softens as winter progresses but maintains its superior sweet flavor. Solid deep yellow *golden* russeted skin. Medium to large vigorous diverging upcurving tree with silvery-green leaves on long willowy branches. Scab resistant. Blooms early to midseason. In very short supply; order early. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**



0319 Golden Russet, $18.50

GoldRush Winter. Coop 38 {PRI 2750-6=[Coop 17 (PRI 1689-100) x Golden Delicious]}. PRI Coop, 1994. The first of the new disease-resistant varieties from the well-known Purdue-Rutgers-Illinois apple breeding program to have superior storage qualities. Not only that, but it's probably *the* best tasting apple to come out of that program. Medium to large round-conic fruit. Uniform deep greenish-yellow opaque chewy skin turns golden in storage. Creamy white green-flecked flesh is hard, very crisp, juicy and tart. A solid apple with excellent flavor. Serve them for dessert in February and March and no one will be disappointed. Very precocious. Highly resistant to scab and powdery mildew. Moderate fireblight resistance. Ripens very late in fall, but does ripen successfully in central Maine. Keeps until May in the root cellar. Moderately vigorous tree with a strong central leader blooms midseason to late. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0329 GoldRush, $18.50

Gray Pearmain Late Fall. Unknown origin. Pear-like juicy and mildly tart dessert apple. Reminds me of Bosc pear. Firm white flesh. Medium-sized oblate obscurely ribbed muffin-shaped fruit. Extremely satisfying apple for fall and winter use. Becoming a favorite around the Fedco warehouse every fall. The skin is a soft opaque greenish-yellow with a rosy pink blush, a bit of a russet veil, and a greyish bloom. You can pick them late—even after the Spies. Will store reasonably well although they may shrivel like Golden Russets. One of the most popular of the many unusual varieties Steve and Marilyn Meyerhans grow at the Apple Farm in Fairfield, ME. There were five or six of the trees in the orchard when they purchased it from Royal Wentworth over 30 years ago. Those trees were already 40 or 50 years old. Unfortunately they never thought to ask the soft-spoken Wentworth about the apple. Its origin may remain a mystery forever. Annually bearing very manageable medium-sized spreading tree. Not hard to grow. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0345 Gray Pearmain, $18.50

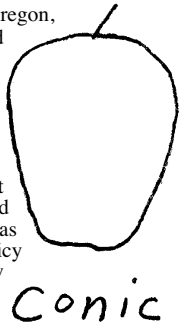
Honeycrisp Winter. MN 1711 (Honeygold x Macoun). U Minn, 1991. Medium-large fruit, described as "explosively crisp," mottled and striped red over yellow. Cream-colored flesh is sweet and juicy with hard snapping-crisp texture. Mild aroma and subacid flavor are top quality in September and improve steadily in storage. Unusual because it ripens in early fall yet keeps up to seven months. First of the many excellent University of Minnesota introductions to receive large-scale commercial attention, now has a huge following. Probably best planted north of Massachusetts; has not performed as well in warmer districts. Tends towards annual bearing. Relatively small low-vigor upright spreading tree. Above average scab resistance. Blooms mid-late season. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

0386 Honeycrisp, $18.50

Honeygold Winter. MN 1595 (Golden Delicious x Haralson). U Minn, 1970. A Golden Delicious for the north. Large round-to-conic golden-yellow bronze-blushed aromatic fruit has crisp and juicy yellow flesh with high-flavored "Golden Delicious" quality. Sometimes the flavor reminds me of a pear. Has a very nice zing to it. Aroostook growers Steve and Barb Miller consider it their best all-purpose winter apple. Harvest in October. Keeps all winter. Medium-sized moderately vigorous moderately open tree. Moderate scab resistance. Blooms midseason. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

0389 Honeygold, $18.50

Hudson's Golden Gem Fall. Tangent, Oregon, 1931. Discovered in a fence row and introduced soon afterward by A.D. Hudson's Wholesale Nurseries. A local favorite in Oregon, more recently gaining notoriety practically everywhere apples are grown. Popularized in Maine through the efforts of Mark Fulford. Thanks Mark! Magnificent medium-to-large distinctly conical russeted long-stemmed fruit. Skin a soft yellow-tan, overlaid with a fine weave of light and dark browns—even black—like an ancient canvas canoe with its intricately cracked paint. Sweet juicy crisp light smooth firm-but-melting yellow pear-like flesh. Stores several months. Naturally small but vigorous productive annually bearing scab-resistant tree. Also resistant to powdery mildew and fire blight. This is a truly fine dessert fruit of unique appearance and exceptional flavor. Blooms mid-late. Z4-9. **ME Grown.**

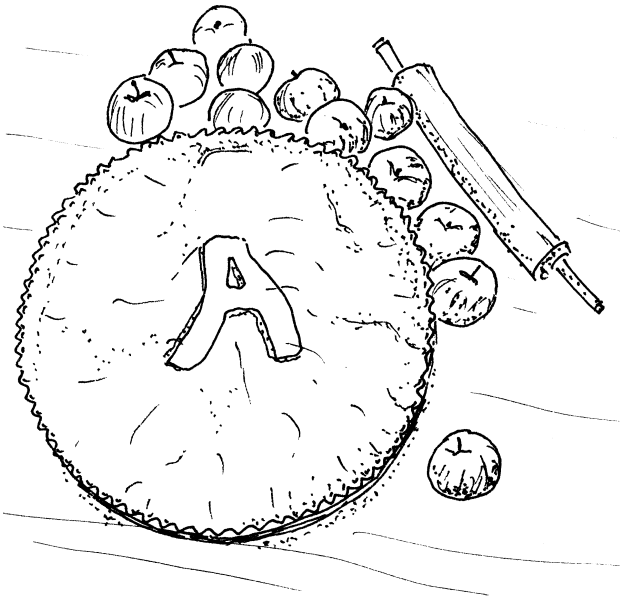


0401 Hudson's Golden Gem, $18.50

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Keepsake Winter. MN 1593 (MN 447 x Northern Spy). U Minn, 1979. A most aptly named apple. Keeps until July. Light yellow very fine-textured flesh is hard, crisp, juicy and sweet. Excellent aromatic flavor, but you must wait at least a month after picking. David Bedford of the Minnesota Horticultural Research Center said, "The completely unique flavor percolates up your nose.…If you can't stand the looks, just close your eyes when you eat it!" The irregular conic medium-sized fruit is almost entirely overlaid with stripes and a wash of very deep red. Moderately vigorous medium-sized tree usually bears annual crops. One commercial orchardist form Pennsylvania told me last winter that it's become his favorite apple and his customers' favorite too. He can't grow enough of them. A northern grower on the North American Fruit Explorers (NAFEX) email discussion group called it, "My most agreeable, reliable, grower overwhelmingly friendly apple. I have to thin the whoopee out of it every year. Big fruit. Big taste. Keepsake! Keepsake! Keepsake!" Somewhat resistant to scab. Blooms late. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

0452 Keepsake, $18.50

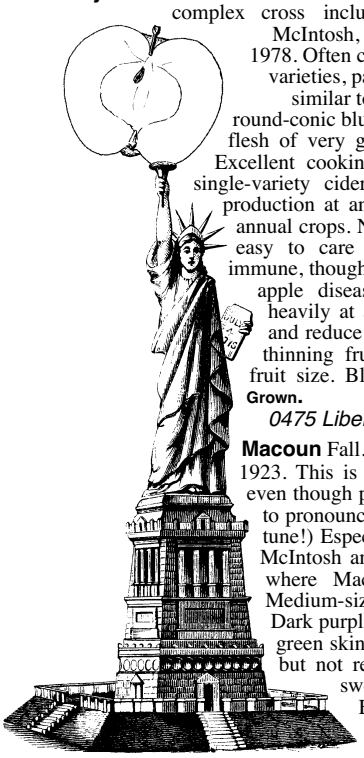


King David Fall. Chance seedling, thought to be to Jonathan x Arkansas Black, Washington County, Arkansas, 1893. King David has a reputation as an intensely flavored apple. I agree. In a good year, this is one of my favorites. The initial bite is an explosion of flavors. You'll wince. Pineapple, tangerine, lemon, sweet, sour, tart, sharp, aromatic and spicy all rush around simultaneously. I'm reminded of the first time I bit into a piece of sushi slathered in green horseradish. You may see stars. The medium-sized round-oblate-conic fruit is very dark solid maroon—nearly black. The fine juicy flesh is firm yet tender and distinctly yellow. Once grown here and there in Maine orchards. Now mostly forgotten. The tree is vigorous, bears young and regularly. Ripens in the fall and keeps until the beginning of the year. May soften at the core if allowed to overripen on the tree. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0457 King David, $18.50

Liberty Late Summer-Fall. NY 55140-19 [Macoun x PRI 54-12 (PRI Coop complex cross includes Rome Beauty, Jersey Black, McIntosh, Wealthy and *M. floribunda*)]. NY Stn, 1978. Often cited as the best of the disease-resistant varieties, particularly in the Northeast. Somewhat similar to Macoun. A handsome medium-sized round-conic bluish-pinkish-red apple with crisp white flesh of very good dessert quality when dead ripe. Excellent cooking and cider too. Recommended for single-variety cider. Keeps till late fall. Begins fruit production at an early age, bearing consistent heavy annual crops. Naturally well-structured sturdy tree is easy to care for. Considered to be 100% scab immune, though not resistant to insects or other lesser apple diseases. Allowing Liberty to crop too heavily at a young age can stunt final tree size and reduce productivity. Even with mature trees, thinning fruit clusters is important to maintain fruit size. Blooms early to midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0475 Liberty, $18.50



Macoun Fall. (McIntosh x Jersey Black) NY Stn, 1923. This is an apple with a near cult following even though practically no one seems to know how to pronounce the name. (It rhymes with town, not tune!) Especially good choice for those who like McIntosh and live south of the Maine border where Macs do not reach their prime. Medium-sized ribbed lobed truncate fruit. Dark purplish-red blush mostly covers the green skin. The very white flesh is crisp but not really hard. The rich flavor is sweet and aromatic. Very juicy. Excellent for fresh eating. Somewhat vigorous, upcurving tree with stout curved branches may require some training. Not tall. Moderately productive. Thinning the young fruit will help maintain larger fruit size. Although susceptible to scab, the fruit appears to be less affected than McIntosh. The fruit also appears to show some natural resistance to insect damage. Blooms mid-late season. In short supply. Zone 4-6. **ME Grown.**

0497 Macoun, $18.50

McIntosh Fall. Thought to be a seedling of Fameuse or perhaps St. Lawrence x Alexander. Dundela, Ontario, 1811. First discovered by John McIntosh on his farm near the St. Lawrence River in 1811. Originally called Granny's Apple, then McIntosh Red, sometimes Gem, and finally McIntosh. Certainly the most important apple in the Northeast. Although not planted in many other locations, it grows to perfection in our cool climate. There are many strains of McIntosh, some striped, some blushed, some solid red. Recent strains have been selected for traits other than flavor, and the variety has gotten a bad reputation. This strain has green ground color overlaid with red stripes and blush. It was planted in 1906 in Mercer, ME. Many of these trees are still alive and bearing large crops. Of all the strains we have sampled, this one has the best "Mac" taste. This is a delicious aromatic apple. Annual cropper. Large beautifully rounded spreading strong easily managed tree. Susceptible to scab. Does not keep well in ordinary storage. Blooms midseason. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**

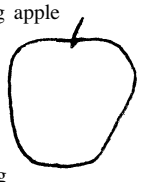
0522 McIntosh, $18.50

Milden Fall-Winter. Alton, NH, about 1865. Old time all-purpose variety grown widely with great success where Baldwin lacked hardiness. Once fairly common in northern New England and still often found in old western Maine orchards. I even located one in Palermo, a few miles from home, last year. Large oblate-to-conic fruit with a thin yellow skin mottled and splashed with bright red. The fine-textured whitish flesh, tinged with yellow, is coarse, juicy, both sparkly crisp and melting. Take a bite and first it says "tart," but then it says "sweet." Very pleasing. Good for eating and cooking. Famous for winter pies. Ripens late and keeps till late winter. Large vigorous tree. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

0549 Milden, $18.50

Moses Wood Summer. Unknown parentage. Winthrop, ME, before 1847. If you're like Gene, who won't eat an apple unless it's tart, this may be the variety you've dreamed about. Late-summer dessert and cooking apple, medium-sized, roundish to conic with distinct ribbing and lobes around the calyx end. Light yellow skin with a pink blush and red stripes. White medium- to fine-grained tender very juicy flesh, definitely *subacid*. Excellent tart fresh eating. That tartness also adds a kick to its superb early season pies. Vigorous upright productive tree. Named for the itinerant Winthrop grafter who traveled on horseback spreading apple varieties around central Maine long before the days of Fedco. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0582 Moses Wood, $18.50



Nodhead Fall-Winter. Unknown parentage. Hollis, NH, early 1800s. Also known as **Jewett's Red** or **Jewett's Fine Red**. Excellent tart eating right off the tree after a few frosty nights in October and remaining excellent well into winter. Tender and juicy. The first variety I learned 35 years ago when I moved to Palermo where they are scattered all over town. I've never heard a satisfactory explanation for the name, but I've grown to love the flat truncate odd-shaped medium-sized deep crimson fruit—resembling Winesap—and the neat small easily managed rounded tree. Like Blue Pearmain, its possible parent, it has a heavy blue bloom. Some years ago I received a wonderful note from Ruth King, "When I was a little girl (I'm 89 now) a Nodhead tree grew just outside our dining room. I expect it was quite frail as there were so few apples that the five of us kids squabbled as to who got the most!" Bears a crop every year. Keeps until midwinter. Blooms late. Long-lived, natural semi-dwarf tree. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

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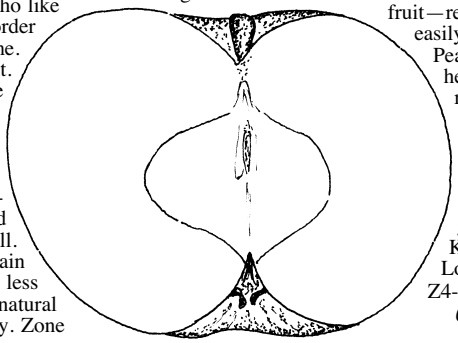
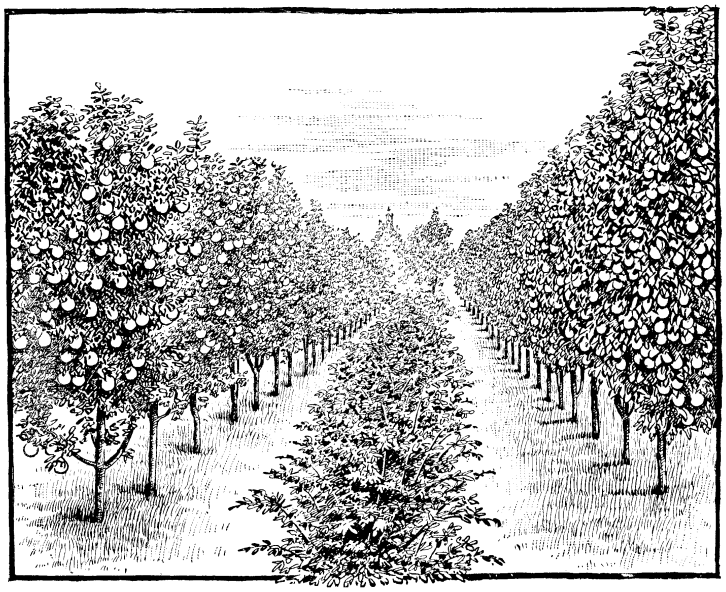
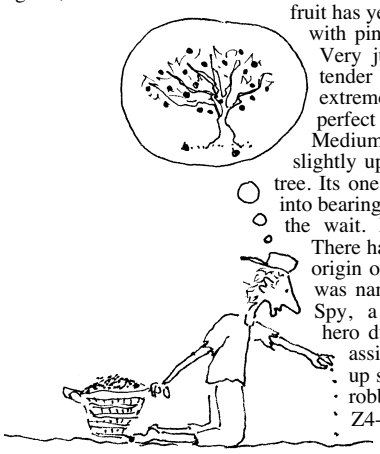


0612 Nodhead, $18.50



Northern Spy Winter. Chance seedling. East Bloomfield, NY, about 1800. A bronze plaque marks the site of the original tree of this former commercial giant, which is still a renowned Maine favorite. Large delectable all-purpose fruit has yellow background covered all over with pink and light red stripes and wash. Very juicy and tender. Even when the tender skin bruises, it still keeps extremely well. Last July 1st I picked a perfect one out of a bag in my root cellar. Medium-to-large moderately vigorous slightly upcurving late-blooming long-lived tree. Its one drawback is being slow to come into bearing, although for us it has been worth the wait. Prefers fertile well-drained soil. There has been much speculation as to the origin of the odd name. Some maintain it was named after the legendary Northern Spy, a notorious hardcore abolitionist hero during the early 19th century who assisted slaves in escaping north, set up safe houses for them *en route*, and robbed and killed slave catchers. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

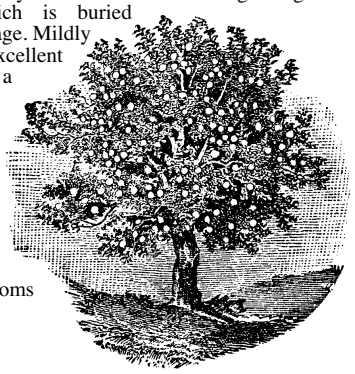


0621 Northern Spy, $18.50

Opalescent Fall. Ohio, 1899. To my taste buds, most popular modern apples are sweet and crisp but lack any distinctive flavor. As I search for new varieties to offer I am always on the lookout for extremely flavorful dessert varieties. Opalescent fits that description. I can't believe I'd driven by the old tree a mile from home probably a thousand times before I finally stopped and tried it one day at the insistence of fellow fruit explorer Brian Milakovsky. This very large brilliant deep red dessert apple will shock your tongue with flavor. It's crisp, it's sweet, it's tart, it's juicy but most of all it's supremely flavorful. Every so often I meet someone who knows Opalescent and all agree. Wow! Excellent fresh eating. Said to cook up well too though I haven't tried them yet. Will keep till mid-late winter. Vigorous medium-sized annually producing tree. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0646 Opalescent, $18.50

Prima Fall. Coop 2 (PRI 1225-100=PRI 14-510 x NJ 123249). PRI Coop, 1970. One of the first of the disease-resistant varieties to hit the market and now one of the tried and true. Although other catalogs have dropped Prima in favor of newer "designer" varieties, we still think very highly of it. Medium-large roundish fruit has rich yellow skin with a striking orange-red blush. Resembles Jonathan which is buried somewhere in its convoluted parentage. Mildly subacid juicy white flesh provides excellent eating and makes good cider. Keeps a couple of months. Open spreading tree bears annually if kept thinned. Proving to be hardier than anyone thought. Scab immune; resistant to fireblight, cedar apple rust and mildew. Our grafting wood comes from Sewall's Orchard in Lincolnville, where their nearly 20-year-old organic Primas are still pumping out tasty annual crops. Blooms early. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**



0727 Prima, $18.50

Two 90th Birthdays!
Earland Goodhue and Francis Fenton: an Appreciation

Perhaps the greatest perk of my job coordinating Fedco Trees is getting to spend time with an amazing assortment of wonderful people. Two of them—both central Maine orchardists—celebrate their 90th birthdays in 2005. With two lifetimes of expertise and unending generosity, Earland Goodhue and Francis Fenton have helped to shape Fedco into what it is today. They introduced me to many of our most popular apples and pears. They both have given me free rein of their respective orchards for years. If you've ever seen the wonderful apple variety display in Fedco's booth at Common Ground Fair, you've seen many apples from their orchards. Much of the scionwood with which we graft 10,000 fruit trees every year still comes from them.

Earland and Helen Goodhue live in a large clapboard house, in which Earland was born, on the Goodhue Farm, on the Goodhue Road in Sidney. Behind the house, between the dairy barns, around the shop and beyond the gardens are apple trees, 100 or so. It was never meant to be a commercial orchard although over the years they have sold apples and cider from a picnic table on the front lawn. Many of the trees have been grafted to multiple varieties, some with three or four varieties on a tree. Most are unusual, many are rare, some are all but extinct.

About fifteen years ago I called Earland to ask if I might pay him a visit. Someone told me I should meet him. A week later we were tromping through the snow together looking at the dozens of leafless fruit trees representing decades of devoted collecting, grafting, observing, pruning and spraying. We pored over Earland's orchard map at the kitchen table. Helen fed us cookies and cider as she fed the cook stove and prepared supper. She pulled dry split wood from a trim cupboard on the kitchen wall, stoking the fire as I marveled at the map, a mass of x's and o's and names on top of names and notations on top of notations. Fortunately Earland was there to interpret.

Earland introduced me to two of my favorite apples: Garden Royal and Starkey. Although I've since located two older Starkey trees (both in Vassalboro) I've yet to find another Garden Royal in Maine. Two Sidney apples—Summer Sweeting and Washington Sweet—would be lost were it not for his efforts. His large collection also includes the red-fleshed Winekist, one of only two remaining varieties developed by Winthrop, Maine, plant breeder Morris Towle.

I return as often as I can to visit the Goodhues. Years ago, lifted high up in the bucket of Earland's farm tractor, I grafted new apple varieties onto old trees. In the fall I picked apples. In the winter I collected scions. In recent years we've spent more time chatting than touring the orchard. Earland is always happy to catch up around the kitchen table or out in the sunny front room overlooking the orchard. If I arrive somewhere near noon I'm always asked to join Helen and him for a home-cooked meal.

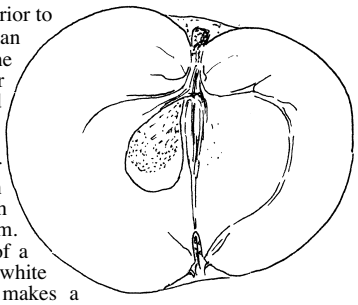
I tracked down Francis Fenton about the same year I met Earland. I remembered Francis from the years he displayed and talked about apples at Common Ground Fair back when it was in Windsor. On our first afternoon together, the beginning of our long friendship, we collected samples for the Fedco display at the Fair. As I recall, I left with about 60 different varieties. Francis lives on the farm where he grew up on the Sandy River Road in Mercer. He still runs his four-acre commercial orchard by himself—although family members often appear in the fall to assist him with the harvest. He sells his fruit out of the old sky-blue apple shed beside the orchard.

Francis' orchard was planted in 1906 by his father. Several of the original trees are still producing. These include his favorite apple, Wealthy, and a delicious old striped McIntosh. There's also one huge old Ben Davis tree. Francis loves the variety Wealthy. He's always happy to expound upon its numerous virtues. All Fedco's Macs and Wealthys come from these original trees. The rest of his orchard is a collection of about 100 new and old varieties that he has planted over the years. Two—Thompson and Somerset of Maine—originated in Mercer. A third, Red Blaze, probably originated nearby though no one knows for sure. Francis has the only mature Cox Orange Pippin I've been able to locate in Maine. He also has wonderful specimens of Fall Pippin, Scott's Winter, Whitney Crab, Smokehouse and dozens of others.

Francis has lived alone now for many years since his wife Dolly passed away. His primary companion is his old dog Fancy, although a regular stream of visitors always seems to be dropping in. He continues to come to MOFGA events now and then. He loves to talk and he loves to learn. He comes to the Fedco public sale every May. We give him a name tag, and he sells trees for several hours before heading home with a few new varieties to add to his orchard. For the past two years he has hosted MOFGA organic orchard classes. Although he says he can't graft anymore, he told me recently that those he grafted last winter nearly all took. He regularly attributes his longevity to a daily lunch of homemade applesauce and ice cream. So it must be true.

I was fortunate to attend Francis' birthday party in July. I didn't get the count, but the yard was mobbed. Earland's is coming up in September. It's impossible to quantify the contribution these two men have made to Fedco and to me personally. Many thanks to you both, and Happy 90th Birthday!

Red Astrichan Summer. Russia prior to 1835. One of the first four Russian apples imported to the U.S. and the standard Maine summer apple for generations. Still found in many old Maine dooryards. Moderate to heavy crops of medium-sized somewhat oblate fruit, splashed or sometimes solidly covered with dark red. An obvious russet patch nearly always surrounds the stem. Looks a bit like a junior version of a Wolf River. Juicy rich subacid white flesh frequently tinged with red makes a highly colored sauce. Especially loved for its distinctive flavor in pies. Keeps for a month with refrigeration. Vigorous tree bears young, often annually, and over a period of several weeks in midsummer. Very hardy. Blooms early. Z3-6. **ME Grown.**



0768 Red Astrichan, $18.50

Red Gravenstein Late Summer. Uncertain Italian or German origin, 17th century or earlier. The most famous of all pie apples. There are numerous strains of Gravenstein. This deep solid purply-red strain can be found in old orchards in southern Maine. Mary Jones used this Red Gravenstein from Sweetser's Orchard in Cumberland to win the Maine State Pie Championship a few years ago. She told me it's "sweet but very hard to describe…real nice…full-bodied…wonderful flavor." Ripens earlier than most other cooking apples, over the course of several weeks so you don't have to deal with them all at once. But they don't keep well. It's a minor miracle that Mary "somehow saved them until January for the State Championship." Large vigorous perfectly shaped tree. Easy to prune. Thanks to India Broyles and Bob Shafto for providing the scionwood from their ancient trees in Falmouth just up the road from Sweetser's. Triploid, will not pollinate other varieties. Blooms early. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

0790 Red Gravenstein, $18.50

Redfree Summer. Coop 13 (PRI 2175-7=Raritan x PRI 1018-101). PRI Coop, 1981. One of the newer disease-resistant scab-immune releases from the PRI breeding program. Medium-sized round firm sweet crisp juicy entirely red summer apple ripens mid-late August in central Maine. One of the only summer apples you can call crisp. Excellent fresh eating and creamy thick coarse sweet applesauce. Keeps two weeks in the kitchen or two months in cold storage. Vigorous somewhat upright habit. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0810 Redfree, $18.50

Roxbury Russet Winter. Roxbury, MA, early 1600s. One of best late winter dessert apples. Renowned for juice and cider. Together with Baldwin and Rhode Island Greening one of the big three commercial apples in New England for most of the nineteenth century. Not as sweet as Golden Russet. Rich, spicy and juicy. Hard medium-large oblate-conic-angular fruit covered with greenish to yellowish-brown russet. Not uniform in size, shape or color. Keeps all winter. Resistant to scab and mildew. In growing demand these days with the resurgence of interest in hard cider. The aromatic juice is recommended for both single-variety cider and blends. Medium-to-large vigorous spreading tree. Probably the first named American apple variety. Apologies to those who were out-of-stocked in '05. We have a good supply in '06 but still recommend ordering early. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

0851 Roxbury Russet, $18.50

Scott's Winter Winter. Unknown parentage. Newport, VT, 1864. A very tart dessert apple and a supremely wonderful mid-winter pie apple. Small-medium-sized roundish truncate fruit-completely and densely striped and dashed with red. Pick them in late October and store them at least a month before putting them to the knife. A pie in December will hold its shape and be still on the tart side. While nearly everyone will like these early pies, the real treat comes in February when the apples are still firm but a little spongy. Then the pies are at peak flavor. Friends have told me it was the best pie they'd ever eaten. And I know it wasn't my crust. Later pies hold up well in the oven; although they might sink a bit, the taste is exquisite. Tart and flavorful. Will keep all winter in the root cellar. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**

0876 Scott's Winter, $18.50

Stark Winter. Unknown parentage. Delaware County, OH, about 1850. Annually bearing precocious all-purpose winter storage apple. Excellent tart eating, cooking, drying and cider. Medium-large fruit, round to conic with smooth skin, mostly covered with pink and deep red streaks. Ruth Smith from York Harbor wrote to me years ago about Stark, "I was always amazed at the color and thickness of the applesauce. I had to add a lot more water than the usual apple needed. It was very tart applesauce." Very vigorous, reliably productive, medium-large upright-spreading vase-shaped tree. Soil adaptable; scab-resistant. Popular in Maine 100 years ago; often planted as an alternative to Baldwin. The two apples even resemble one another and are sometimes confused. Stark has a shinier skin, a more oblong shape and is not nearly so brick red. It is also the more tart of the two. Not to be confused with Starkey (#**0955**) or the famous Stark Brothers' Nursery. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

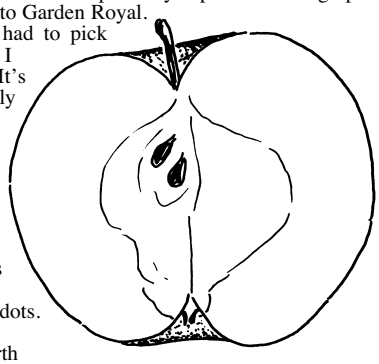
0952 Stark, $18.50

Making applesauce and pear sauce in the oven

Tom Vigue learned from an old-timer how to make syrupy fruit sauces and butters by roasting the fruit.

Fill a large (or huge) roasting pan with whole apples or pears with only the stems removed, as long as the fruit is nice quality and doesn't need more trimming. Roast at approximately 350° for a couple of hours, checking occasionally to mash down any fruit before it scorches. After two hours or more, when fruit is soft, process through a food mill to remove skins and cores. At that point you will have a sauce. Return sauce to the oven and roast for a few more hours, depending on how concentrated you want it. A very concentrated sweet fruit butter eventually results without ever burning the bottom of the pan.

Starkey Fall-Early Winter. Seedling of Ribston Pippin. Vassalboro, ME, 1820. My favorite fall fresh eating apple, its exquisite combination of crisp sweetness and tartness reminescent of a perfectly ripe Concord grape. Similar in appearance and flavor to Garden Royal. Starkey has more tartness. If I had to pick between the two of them (I don't; I have both) I would pick Starkey. It's a larger apple, bears more regularly and keeps well into winter. I get into them beginning in late September, with perfect eating being just about Christmas. Still quite decent in late winter. Medium-sized roundish fruit is rosy red, covered almost completely with fine lines, shades and stripes of darker reds and sprinkled with pronounced white dots. Originated on the farm of Moses Starkey, a Quaker minister in North Vassalboro. Listed in *The Apples of New York* but never got much notice outside central Maine where it was once quite popular. Annually bearing tough medium-large tree. A great apple. Z4-6.**ME Grown.**



0955 Starkey, $18.50

Sweet 16 Early Fall. MN 1630 (MN447 x Northern Spy). U Minn, 1979. Whenever anyone eats a Sweet 16 for the first time, you know they will be surprised. Fine-textured crisp flesh contains an astounding unusually complex combination of sweet nutty and spicy flavors with slight anise essence, sometimes described as cherry-like. Sam Shaw (my nephew, then age nine) declared, "It has a ton of different kinds of flavors." Ed Fackler (nationally esteemed pomologist, then about "our" age) described it as "expensive bourbon with a shot of vanilla." Either way, this is an amazing apple. Truly excellent fresh eating. Round-conic bronze-red medium-sized fruit, striped and washed with rose-red. Annual bearer if thinned. Very hardy moderate-sized vigorous vase-shaped tree grows upright with willowy branches that get loaded with fruit but do not break. Grower-friendly. Reaches its best flavor and texture in northern districts. Some resistance to scab. Keeps till midwinter. Blooms midseason. Z3-6. **ME Grown.**

1017 Sweet 16, $18.50

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Tolman Sweet Fall-Early Winter. Unknown parentage. Sometimes called Talman Sweet and numerous variations thereof. Possibly from Dorchester, MA. Extremely old. One of the first American apples and one of the few to remain popular for centuries. Truly an all-purpose fruit, used for cooking, dessert and even animal fodder. Once popular for "pickling, boiling and baking." Likely *the* most recognizable flavor of any apple. Interesting peculiar sweet strange flavor you'll never forget once you've eaten it. It's sort of a seventeenth century taste. Some like it and some don't. I do. Moderately juicy medium-sized greenish fruit, often marked by a suture line running from top to bottom and sometimes with a bit of a blush. Long-lived heavy-bearing medium-sized vigorous tree. Dark green leaves with bluish cast. Still quite common in small old central Maine farm orchards. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1046 Tolman Sweet, $18.50

Wealthy Fall. Cherry crab seedling. Excelsior, MN, 1860. A Maine native of sorts, the seed having come from Bangor. Superb all-purpose fall apple, one of the most famous of all hardy varieties. With its perfect texture and complex flavors, Wealthy once again proved itself to be the undisputed champion for fall apple pies in the 2004 Belgrade Lakes Pie Taste-Off. Our old friend, long-time orchardist Francis Fenton, believes Wealthy—not McIntosh—deserves to be the favorite commercial apple of northern New England. The trees his father planted in Mercer 100 years ago are still going strong. Round-oblate medium-sized fruit is pale greenish-yellow streaked with carmine. About as firm as McIntosh. Tender very juicy sweet sub-acid flesh is white, often stained red. Good eating and even better cooking! Ripens over a long period. Productive moderately vigorous long-lived small to medium-sized tree. Blooms early. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

1130 Wealthy, $18.50

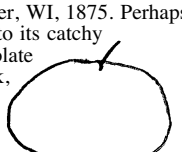
Wickson Fall. 1944, Humboldt County, CA. (Spitzenburg x Newtown) Introduced by the unsung and generally unknown Albert Etter, one of the great twentieth century plant breeders. (His long-lost Fairfax strawberry is legendary—usually considered to be the best-flavored strawberry.) Wickson apples are quite small, roundish and blushed bright red. The tree in September looks like a mass of cherries. The crisp juicy spicy flavorful fruit is extremely high in both sugar and acid. Ram Fishman, in a 1990 Seed Savers Exchange article, noted the "sugar level of the juice is around 25%. It is outstanding for fresh use, having a confectionery quality that borders on the addictive." I agree. Recommended fresh, in juice, jam or jelly. Etter himself introduced it as a variety from which to make champagne. Cider-maker Steve Woods called Wickson an "excellent source of acidity…a wonderful, funny little tree." Bears young and annually. Blooms early. Z4-8. **ME Grown.**

1145 Wickson, $18.50

Winthrop Greening Late Summer-Fall. Ichabod Howe Farm, Winthrop, ME, before 1800. Ichabod Howe (1731-1810) laid out many of Winthrop's roads, organized construction of its first church, was an accomplished trapper and hunter, served seven terms as selectman and was, appropriately enough, Winthrop's first orchardist. One of the few Maine apples to receive attention from outside the state over the years. Quite popular throughout central Maine as late as 1920; now all but unknown. Large 3 1/4" flattish-oblate beautiful fruit, light green with a red-orange wash, small greenish dots, and splashes and ribs of russeting, usually with a patch of russet radiating from the stem. Very interesting sweet flavor, medium-low acidity, with a crunch. We're pleased that recently a Winthrop Greening and another Winthrop apple, Moses Wood (#**0582**), from Fedco were planted in Winthrop at the new high school. Blooms late. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1182 Winthrop Greening, $18.50

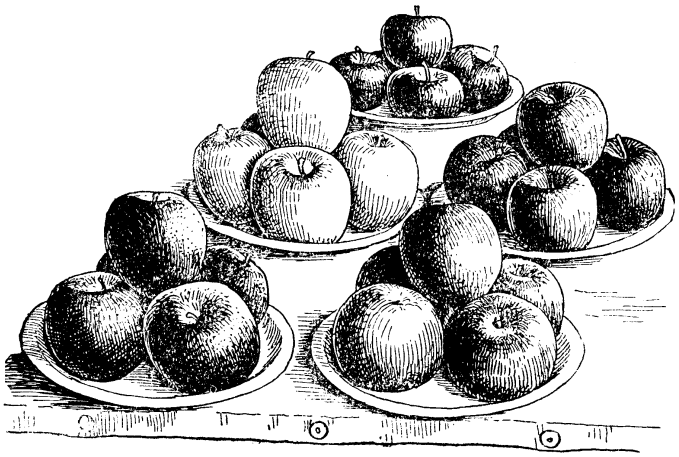
Wolf River Fall. Alexander seedling. Near Wolf River, WI, 1875. Perhaps the most famous old-time apple in Maine, likely due to its catchy name and its extremely large—even huge—round-oblate fruit. Pale yellow-green skin mostly covered with pink, deep red and bright crimson. Almost always has a vivid yellowish-greenish russety splash around the stem. Creamy-white coarse firm-but-tender flesh. Aromatic subacid flavor is very good for cooking. Makes an excellent baked apple and a decent pie. Particularly tasty dried. Not much good for fresh eating, but good things happen to the flavor when it's dried. I cut them in full slices right across the core and place them on a screen above the wood stove. They dry in a couple of days. Keeps until late fall. Large moderately vigorous productive spreading tree. Scab resistant. Blooms midseason. Z3-5. **ME Grown.**



1190 Wolf River, $18.50

Yellow Transparent Summer. Imported from Russia, l870. Along with Red Astrichan, the classic northern New England summer apple. As ubiquitous as Duchess in Aroostook County. Heavy annual cropper of exceptionally early apples—as early as the first week of August in central Maine some years. Presumably called 'Transparent' because you practically see through the clear light yellow smooth waxy tender skin. White juicy sweetly sub-acid flesh. The soft ripe fruit makes a magnificent purée-type applesauce. You can leave the food mill on the shelf. Can be good fresh eating, but catch them when they're ripe because they don't keep more than a few hours. Best about a day on the green side. Moderately vigorous medium-to-small upcurving tree with yellowish bark and foliage. Z3-4 maybe 5. **ME Grown.**

1214 Yellow Transparent, $18.50



Where can I taste that apple?

While we pride ourselves with our variety descriptions, there's nothing like the real thing. No words can compare to the taste. Frequently I'm asked, "Where can I taste a ….?" Here are a few suggestions.

Maine:

Visit the orchards near you. Call the Maine Dept of Ag at (207)-287-3491 or visit them on-line at getrealmaine.com for a complete list of the orchards in Maine. Many have unusual varieties. Even one or two rare finds can be worth the trip. Below are a few orchards with wonderful collections. I'm sure there are others. Don't be frustrated if you call and reach no one. Just go. By September most of them are open 6 or 7 days a week.

- Ricker Hill Orchards, Turner, Androscoggin County (207)-225-5552, www.rickerhill.com. Organic apples and more. Collection of young heirlooms includes most of the Fedco list. Some should be fruiting in a year or two.
- Sweetser's Apple Barrel and Orchards, Cumberland Center, Cumberland County (207)-829-3074, www.maineapple.com. A great collection of old and new varieties. Their pride and joy is an ancient Rolfe tree. Don't miss it.
- Bailey's Orchard, South Windsor, Lincoln County (207)-549-7680. One of the largest collections of old varieties in the state.
- Lakeside Orchards, Manchester, Kennebec County (207)-622-2479, www.lakesideorchards.com. Organic apples and a good collection of mostly new varieties.
- Rollins Orchard, Garland, Penobscot County (207)-924-3504. A very good collection of unusual old varieties.
- Sandy River Orchard, Mercer, Somerset County (207)-587-2563. Francis Fenton's huge collection of 100 or more varieties.
- The Apple Farm, Fairfield, Somerset County (207)-453-7656. A great collection of unusual old and new varieties.
- Sewall's Orchard, Lincolnville, Waldo County (207)-763-3956, www.sewallsorchard.com. Organic apples including some of the first disease resistant releases.
- Dole's Orchard, Limington, York County (207)-793-4409, www.dolesorchard.com. Mix of old and new. They have two un-named varieties crossed by the late Maine plant breeder, Russell Bailey. Both are extremely rare, if not unique.

Other States:

I know a few orchards with good collections outside of Maine. If you know of any we should list, please let us know. An internet search could direct you to an orchard nearby.

- Nashoba Valley Winery, Bolton, MA. (978)-779-5521, www.nashobawinery.com. A large collection of old and new varieties.
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, MA (508)-869-6111, www.towerhillbg.org. The best collection of historic varieties in New England. At last count, 119 all labeled in an arboretum-type setting. A great place to study the fruit. Usually for sale at a special event over Columbus Day weekend. Call ahead.
- Hutchins Farm, Concord, MA (978)-369-2480. Nice collection of old and mostly newer varieties.
- Gould Hill Orchard, Contoocook, NH (603)-746-3811. Large collection of new and old varieties.
- Poverty Lane Orchards, Lebanon, NH (603)-448-1511, www.povertylaneorchards.com. Likely the best collection of unusual dessert apples in New England. One of the largest collection of cider apples in the U.S. They have all the cider varieties we sell.
- Alyson's Orchard, Walpole, NH (603)-756-9090. Although I've never been there, I've heard they have an extensive collection.

Cider Apples

Cider was the most popular drink in Britain and other parts of northern Europe for hundreds of years. It was also the most popular drink in the eastern U.S. until well into the 19th century. It was almost always fermented. Over here, most cider orchards were composed of nameless seedling apples, although a few varieties such as Golden Russet, Roxbury Russet and Hewe's Crab were recognized as premier cider apples. In England however, there is a long tradition of cider varieties. These are NOT for fresh eating; in fact, most taste terrible. Nor are they suitable for sweet (unfermented) cider, although some might add character to a sweet cider blend. However, they all possess qualities that make them very desirable for fermented cider production, and fermented cider is what we mean by 'cider'.

The National Fruit and Cider Institute in Long Ashton, England, formed in the early 20th century, evaluated about 2000 cider varieties, classifying them into four categories: **sharp** (low in tannins, high in acid), **sweet** (little or no tannin, low acid), **bittersharp** (high in tannins and high acid), and **bittersweet** (high tannins and sugar, low acid, astringent, said to make the highest quality cider). **Tannin** denotes naturally occurring compounds whose bitter astringency gives cider rounded full flavor, body, and golden color. The Cider Institute also applied the term **vintage** to those varieties that possess the perfect qualities for cider.

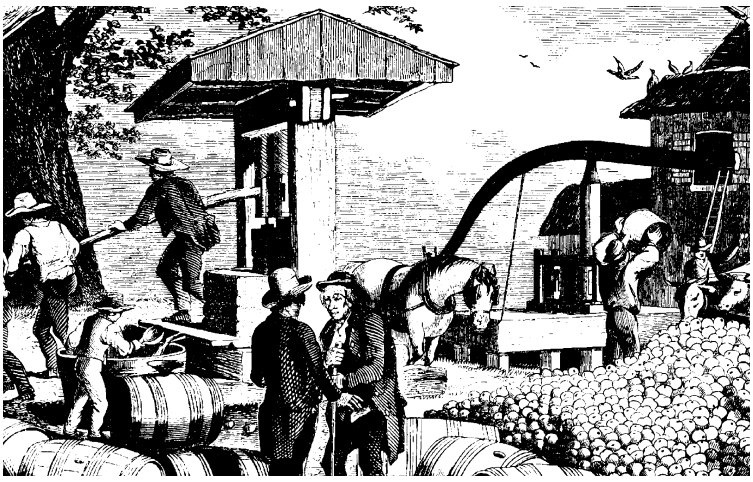
Bittersweets should not be pressed alone. They don't contain enough acid to make quality single-variety ciders. Cider needs a sharp apple to provide some acid. Blend the bittersweets with Foxwhelp, Kingston Black, Stoke Red, or a tart apple such as Baldwin, Cox Orange Pippin, Duchess, Dudley, Esopus Spitzenburg, Fallawater, Golden Russet, Northern Spy, Roxbury Russet, Scott's Winter, Stark, Starkey or even Brandywine crab.

A well-planned cider orchard includes several varieties of each season, ripening in a progression through the fall. (It does no good to have an early bittersweet if none of your other varieties will be ripe until late October.)

Many of these vintage apples have been imported to the U.S. in recent years and cider enthusiasts are growing them. In response to this renaissance, we are offering some of the best varieties again this year. We hope to offer these and other vintage cider apples in the future. Our thanks to Steve Wood of Poverty Lane Orchards and Farnham Hill Cider in Lebanon, NH, for his advice and for providing us with piles of scionwood for this project.

Some cider apples are in short supply. If you plan to order more than a few trees and would like to discuss availability, call or send us an email. If necessary we can custom graft larger quantities of any of these varieties.

All cider apples are on standard (Antanovka) hardy seedling rootstock. (3-6' trees)



Cider apple collection A package of seven trees to begin your cider orchard. We will choose two sharps or bittersharps and five bittersweets for each collection. The seven trees will include at least six different varieties. **ME Grown.**

1270 Cider Apple Collection, bundle of 7, $100.00

Ashton Bitter Early Fall. Full bittersweet. (Dabinett x Stoke Red) Long Ashton, England, 1950s. Originally introduced by G.T. Spinks, Long Ashton's plant breeder. Resurrected from an old trial orchard and planted extensively in recent years. Medium-to-large round-conic waxy greasy smooth yellow fruit, dotted and striped with glossy bright orange-red. Yellowish juicy flesh. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1273 Ashton Bitter, $18.50

Bramtot Fall. Bittersweet. Thought to be a seedling of the old variety Martin Fessar. France, mid 19th c. The Woolhope Naturalists Field Club brought it to England in 1884. Small ugly conic green partially russeted fruit with a dull orange blush. Firm cream-colored quite bitter very astringent flesh with a very high sugar content. Horrible fresh eating but an excellent bittersweet for blending in cider. Not very well known and rarely included in the literature. Steve Wood of Farnham Hill Ciders called it "a lovely little apple with nice juice, interesting, aggressively tannic." Strongly biennial. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1277 Bramtot, $18.50

Chisel Jersey Late Fall. Full bittersweet. Martock, Somerset, England, 19th c. One of the most famous of the Somerset bittersweets. Round-conic red-striped fruit with a brownish-pink blush. Good sugar content and slow to medium fermentation. Medium acidity, very astringent, harsh and high in tannins. Strong rich full-bodied colorful cider. Best blended with other apples. In old English *chesil* means pebble. Chisel Jersey is small, hard and bitter! Spreading tree may require encouragement to develop a strong central leader. Consistent cropper. Closely related to Dabinett; they should not be relied upon to pollinate one another. Late bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1281 Chisel Jersey, $18.50

Dabinett Late Fall. Medium bittersweet. Probably a seedling of Chisel Jersey, Middle Lambrook, Somerset, England. Most popular cider variety in Somerset today and the mainstay of Poverty Lane's cider orchard. Medium-sized light yellow fruit with a medium-dark red blush and very dark red stripes. Sugar content fair and fermentation moderate. High quality and well-balanced low-acid cider with a soft-tasting tannin. Soft but full astringency. Louise Wood described the taste of biting into one as "like sucking on old pennies." Picked last week of October, blend with other late varieties. Crops regularly. Grower-friendly tree with a spreading drooping habit, may require help in developing a strong central leader. Not pollen compatible with Chisel Jersey. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1285 Dabinett, $18.50

Ellis Bitter Early Fall. Medium bittersweet. Newton St Cyres, Devon, Somerset, England. Useful particularly because of its early ripening. Use it to get the cider press back into the swing of things. Large oddly conic—sometimes ribbed—yellowish-green largely red-blushed fruit is sweet, astringent, crisp and juicy. Fast-growing large spreading vigorous tree produces regularly. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1289 Ellis Bitter, $18.50

Foxwhelp Fall. Bittersharp. According to Steve, the famous original 400-year-old Foxwhelp of yore has long disappeared. No one has it anymore on either side of the Atlantic. Not only that, but no one knows the origin of this "new" Foxwhelp. However it is an excellent bittersharp and an important apple for the cider orchard. Blend it with the fall bittersweets. Medium-large brilliant red fruit. Considered moderately vigorous and a good cropper. High specific gravity. Early-season bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1293 Foxwhelp, $18.50

Kingston Black Midseason. Bittersharp. Unknown parentage. Somerset, England, early 19th c. High in tannin and high in acidity. Produces full-bodied distinctively flavored vintage cider with a nice blend of acid, tannins and sugar. One of the few varieties which makes a high-quality *single variety* hard cider. Ferment it alone or in a blend. We've become fans of Poverty Lane's tasty Kingston Black varietal. Medium-small conical yellow-orange fruit flushed with dark maroon, semi-sweet with a strongly astringent aftertaste. The tree is a reliable bearer, but is gangly and needs careful pruning. Blooms midseason. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1301 Kingston Black, $18.50

Medaille d'Or (Gold Medal) Late Fall. Full bittersweet. Developed by Mr. Goddard of Boisguillaume, Rouen, France. Introduced into England in 1884. Yellow and orange russeted fruit. In the 1993 British text, *The Book of Apples*, Joan Morgan and Alison Richards write that it "produces sweet, heavily astringent juice and full bittersweet cider 'often high in alcohol, fruity and good quality'." Combine with other late varieties. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1313 Medaille d'Or, $18.50

Michelin Midseason. Medium bittersweet. Developed by Mr. Legrand of Yvetot, Normandy, France. Introduced into England in 1884. Named after a famous cider researcher. Small-medium conical ribbed pale green fruit dotted with russet and sometimes slightly blushed. Along with Dabinett one of the most reliable croppers. Medium-sized tree with upright multi-leader habit. Sweet astringent flesh and soft tannin juice, best used for blending with other midseason varieties. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1317 Michelin, $18.50

Stoke Red Late Fall. Bittersharp. Also called Neverblight. May have orginated in Rodney Stoke or near Wedmore, Somerset, England. Small roundish-oblate dark red-striped fruit. Sharp juice with some astringency. Very sharp cider. Consistent heavy cropper and a reputation in the U.K. for resistance to pests and disease. (That's over there, mind you.) Good cropper but may be biennial. Late bloomer. Pick late in the fall and combine with other late varieties. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1329 Stoke Red, $18.50

Yarlington Mill Fall. Medium bittersweet. Yarlington, near North Cadbury, Somerset, England, 1898. Once common in farm orchards of central Somerset. Large yellow conical fruit with a pinkish blush and distinct lobes at the blossom end. Considered an all-round excellent variety, reliable, productive and adaptable to varying conditions. Rich brown low-acid mild lovely aromatic fruity cider, not aggressively tannic. Above-average sugar content. Slow to medium fermentation. Somewhat gangly tree with a lot of blind (non-productive) wood. You may need to head back the leader in early years to encourage strong laterals. Midseason bloomer. Z4-6. **ME Grown.**

1337 Yarlington Mill, $18.50

Scionwood

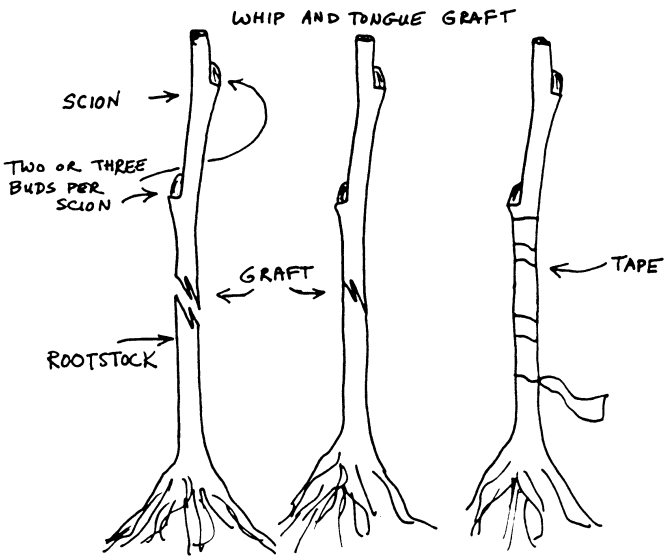
We offer scionwood from a wide selection of fruit trees including many listed in this catalog. Price is $3.00 per stick (about 8") plus shipping. To order scionwood or rootstock for early shipment, send us a SASE requesting a scionwood order form or download it from the Fedco Trees website. Deadline for ordering scionwood and rootstock for early shipment is February 24, 2006. We will ship around March 30.

Hardy Rootstocks

We consider these to be some of the best rootstocks for home or commercial use. Any of these produces fruit suitable for wildlife without grafting. For rootstocks not listed, or for larger calipers or larger quantities, please write for information. We also offer grafting supplies in the Organic Growers Supply section of the seed catalog.

You may order rootstock to be shipped around March 30. To do so, use the scionwood order form obtained by requesting it with a SASE or downloading it from our website. Rootstock ordered on the regular order form in this catalog will be shipped with the rest of the Tree order in April.

Please join us Saturday, March 25, 2006, at the Maine Tree Crop Alliance annual scionwood exchange and grafting workshop in the exhibition hall of MOFGA's Common Ground in Unity. MOFGA also offers a full range of organic orcharding classes; see page 58 and the MOFGA website for details.



***Malus* 'Antanovka'** (Apple) Hardy Russian seedling rootstock for standard-sized apple trees. Z3. (1/4" caliper)

1350 Malus antanovka, bundle of 10, $16.50

EMLA 26 (Apple) Produces a tree about half the size of a standard tree, in between the size of M9 and M7. Appears to be hardier than M7, producing better quality fruit. Adaptable to all but badly drained soils, not as sensitive to mineral deficiencies as some rootstocks. Staking recommended in exposed locations. Z5, maybe 4. (1/4" caliper)

1370 EMLA 26, bundle of 10, $28.00

Prunus americana (Plum) Seedling rootstock for American, Japanese or hybrid plums. Seedling plum produces very decent 1" fruit without grafting. The best pollinator for hybrid plums. See explanation in plum section on page 19. Z3. (1/4" caliper)

1384 Prunus americana, bundle of 10, $16.50

***Prunus cerasifera* 'Myrobalan'** (Plum) Seedling rootstock for European type plums. Not recommended for American or hybrid plums. Z4. (1/4" caliper)

1388 Prunus cerisifera Myrobalan, bundle of 10, $16.50

Pyrus communis (Pear) Seedling rootstock for pears. Exceptional resistance to pear decline. Good uniformity. Z4. (1/4" caliper)

1400 Pyrus communis, bundle of 10, $16.50

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

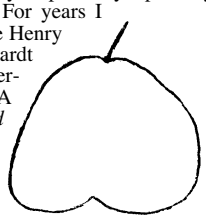
Pears

Pyrus communis are native to temperate Europe and Asia and can grow up to 100' tall in the wild. Many pear varieties are hardy in New England, but tend to take longer to come into bearing than apples. Further south, pears tend to bear annually. However in Maine, where they are approaching their northern limit and due perhaps to our harsher climate, pears tend to bear biennially. Pick fruit when green and ripen it on the shelf. Or, for optimal eating, try Ed Fackler's method: "...when fruits exhibit slight color changes, begin to test pressure (using your thumb) near the stem. When there is a slight "give," pick all the fruit, store at or near 35° for 7 or more days. Then remove them as needed, allow them to sit at room temps for 2-4 days which allows them to ripen to peak flavor."

Many thanks to Earland Goodhue for his ongoing support. Once again this year Earland generously provided us with much scionwood from his amazing pear and apple orchard in Sidney, ME.

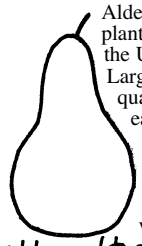
Pear blossoms are less attractive to bees than apple blossoms, so pears should be planted closer together to ensure pollination. Although some pears appear to be self-pollinating, **we recommend a second variety for pollination**. Bloom dates for all varieties are similar. Plant pear trees 15-20' apart. (3 1/2-6' trees)

Atlantic Queen Late Summer-Early Fall. Old French variety. *Very* large melting juicy sweet aromatic yellow-green dessert fruit. Looks like a big chubby obovate obtuse pyriform Bartlett. When they're perfectly ripe, they are hard to beat. You may want to eat the core. For years I wondered about this pear perennially featured in the Henry Leuthardt Nurseries single-sheet "catalog." Leuthardt specialized in espaliered trees and included discoveries from around Long Island, including this pear. A couple years ago I visited a friend who actually *had* one of Leuthardt's espaliered Atlantic Queens *and* it was fruiting *that* very day. I left with two pears. Cammy and I sampled them a day or two later. They were delicious, as good as any pears I ate that fall. The rest is history. I was able to procure wood from said tree and we are now offering it for the first time. Might keep in the fridge for a week or two if you don't eat them first. Z4 if protected. **ME Grown.**



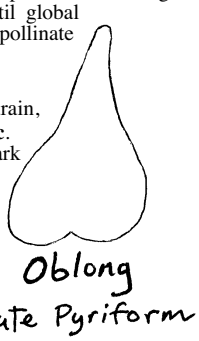
1455 Atlantic Queen, $18.50

Bartlett Late Summer. (Williams' Bon Chrétien) Seedling found in Aldermaston, England; intro to the U.S. late 1700s. Most widely planted and most well known of all pears, accounting for 75% of the U.S. commercial crop. Adaptable to many climates and soils. Large yellow classic oblong-obtuse-pyriform fruit; very good quality. Full reliable annual crops. Large vigorous easy-to-grow long-lived trees bears young. I used to think you couldn't grow Bartlett in central Maine but I've changed my mind over the past few years. I think it *is* a good choice south of Bangor. Susceptible to fire blight, though that won't be a up here until global warming catches up with us. Will not pollinate Seckel. Z4-5. **ME Grown.**



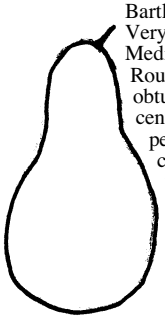
1461 Bartlett , $18.50

Bosc Fall. Seedling in Lourain, Belgium, 1807. Also called **Beurre Bosc**. Oblong acute pyriform, or large and long-necked; dark rich yellow covered with cinnamon-brown russet. Distinctive sweet rich spicy buttery flavor. Melting juicy tender white flesh has smooth texture and a pleasing aroma. Somewhat gritty around the core. Good pollinator. Large vigorous upright spreading tree bears huge crops annually. A longtime favorite throughout central Maine. Z4. **ME Grown.**



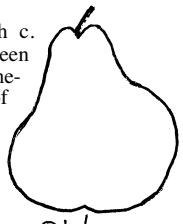
1474 Bosc , $18.50

Clapp Favorite Mid-Late Summer. Said to be Bartlett x Flemish Beauty. Dorchester, MA, before 1860. Very hardy pear common in Maine for over 100 years. Medium-large fruit is pale lemon yellow, mottled bright red. Round-bodied with a short neck. Obovate ovate slightly obtuse pyriform! Medium-firm fine-textured with granular center, very juicy melting sweet fruit with that absolutely perfect "pear flavor" for fresh eating. Pick before completely ripe and finish indoors (tendency to soften at the center after ripening). Our scionwood comes from an ancient tree on Earland and Helen Goodhue's farm in Sidney. Z4. **ME Grown.**



1488 Clapp Favorite, $18.50

Comptesse Clara Frijs Late summer. Germany, 19th c. High-quality dessert pear. Medium-sized warm-yellowy-green oblong-obovate-pyriform rather thick-skinned fruit sometimes with a very slight pink blush—more like a spot of rouge. Completely covered with hundreds of pinpoint grey dots. The buttery aromatic flesh is firm but not crisp with no grit cells. Juicy but not dripping. You can eat it in the car. You can eat it right down to nothing. Keeps for a month. Solid rugged hardy tree. Z4. **ME Grown.**



1496 Comptesse Clara Frijs, $18.50

Dana Hovey Winter. Thought to be a seedling of Seckel. Roxbury, MA, about 1854. Introduced by nineteenth-century fruit enthusiast Francis Dana who dubbed it *Dana's Hovey* in honor of CM Hovey, Boston nurseryman and author of *The Fruits of America*. Sometimes called **Winter Seckel** because of its similarity to Seckel. Small obovate-obtuse-pyriform intensely sweet highly aromatic tender storage pear. Excellent flavor; possibly the best eating of all winter pears. Keeps extremely well. Harvest in October and store in a cool dry spot. Still great eating in December—sometimes even as late as February. Rich golden-yellow russeted fruit. Hardy vigorous moderately productive spreading tree adapts to a variety of soils. No scab and relatively few bugs. Z4. **ME Grown.**

1502 Dana Hovey, $18.50

Gourmet Late Summer. (SD F15 x Ewart) SD State U, 1988. Although I do relish soft melting buttery pears, I also look forward to the Gourmet crop every summer. It's a decidedly crisp pear that still melts in your mouth. Although similar in texture to an Asian Pear, I find Gourmet has more flavor and less wateriness. It's a very nice addition to the mix of summer fruits. Produces a good crop in my orchard where it is pollinated by Seckel every year. Greenish-yellow thick tender skin with russet dots on 2" obovate obtuse pyriform fruit. Sweet yellow flesh. Medium-sized upright tree. Sterile pollen will not pollinate other trees. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1528 Gourmet, $18.50

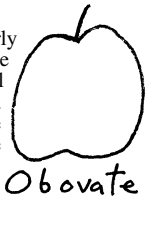
Luscious Early Fall. (SD E31 x Ewart) SD State U, 1967. One of the few recent pear introductions that deserves a place in the home orchard. Produces annual crops of absolutely delicious medium-sized oblong-obovate-pyriform fruit. Bears so heavily that it's apt to break branches. The soft fine extra-juicy off-white flesh is sweet and flavorful with almost no grit cells. Thin yellowish skin is covered with small tan dots. Appears to be self-pollinating. Although some literature warns it will not pollinate other pears, I wouldn't exclude it from my orchard. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1547 Luscious, $18.50

Magness Late Summer. US 3866-E [Giant Seckel (SP149490) x Doyenne du Comice]. USDA, 1960. Generally considered to be unequaled in flavor and quality. Rich, melting, buttery, juicy, sugary, tender, highly perfumed and aromatic with almost no grit cells. Renowned plant breeder Elwin Meader rated Magness as the standard by which to judge other pears in taste and quality. Medium-sized fruit is greenish-yellow with a light dull-bronze russeting, sometimes a crimson blush, and a short pyriform—almost oval—shape. Vigorous spreading tree. Will not pollinate other varieties. Fruit set can be inconsistent. Some insect resistance and excellent fire blight resistance. Keeps more than two months with refrigeration. Z4. **ME Grown.**

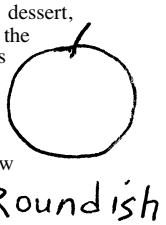
1552 Magness, $18.50

Seckel Late Summer. Seedling near Philadelphia, PA, early 1800s. Sometimes called **Sugar Pear**. Usually considered the best-flavored of all pears; even the skin is delicious. Small obovate fruit is yellowish-brown russeted with slight red blush. Juicy, spicy, distinctive and aromatic. Eat ripe off the tree or pick firm and ripen later. Very productive annual-bearing large tree, easy to grow. *The* most reliably bearing fruit tree I have. Scab and fireblight resistant. Will not pollinate Bartlett. Z4. **ME Grown.**



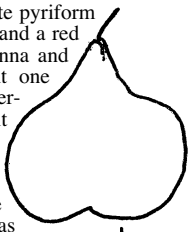
1602 Seckel, $18.50

Sheldon Fall-winter. Huron, NY, about 1815. Superb dessert, cooking and storage pear. At first glance you might think the medium-sized turbinate (roundish) fruit with its greenish-golden russeted ruddy-blushed skin is an Asian pear. But you would be wrong. Sheldon's longtime fame sprang from its tender melting juicy very sweet absolutely delicious aromatic flesh. No crispy watery "Asian crunch" to this pear. Once fairly common in New York and New England home orchards and root cellars though never commercially popular due to its various faults. (Isn't it always that way?) Not particularly productive nor precocious. Large vigorous very long-lived hardy tree. Z4. **ME Grown.**

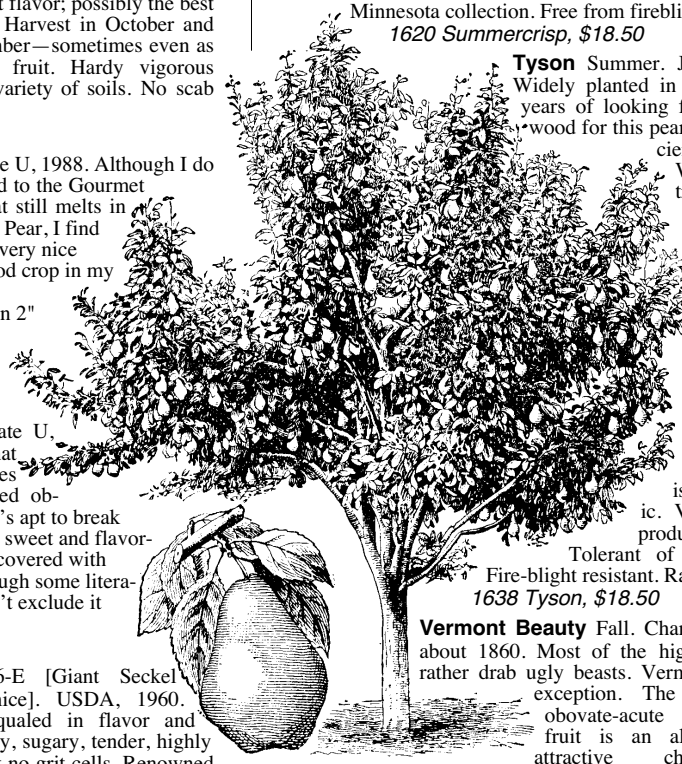


1606 Sheldon, $18.50

Summercrisp Mid-summer. MN N33201 (Gaspard No. 5), unknown parentage. U Minn, 1986. Brought to the Minnesota Horticultural Research Station by John Gaspard in 1933. Large obovate acute pyriform very sweet dessert and canning pear with green skin and a red blush ripens in August in Maine. A favorite of Donna and Chyp of Loon Song Farm in Hartland who bought one from us nearly 20 years ago and have been Summercrisp fans ever since. One reason Donna likes it is it comes on when you're looking for fruit, early in the season. "They're best crisp before they get supermarket soft." In fact, once they do soften, they go by fast. They eat them fresh, can them in quarters and juice the rest. The juice is so sweet, Donna told me she has to cut it with apple juice when she's canning it or it will get fizzy and explode. Precocious, annually bearing tree, medium-sized with typically conic habit. Long considered the hardiest variety in the Minnesota collection. Free from fireblight. Z3. **ME Grown.**



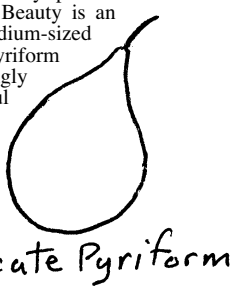
1620 Summercrisp, $18.50



Tyson Summer. Jenkintown, PA, about 1794. Widely planted in Maine for generations. After years of looking for a good source of grafting wood for this pear, we finally located a huge ancient tree in nearby Freedom. Well over 100 years old, the tree has lived through all the great winters of the 20th century. The definitive 1921 text *The Pears of New York* calls Tyson's flavor "second only to Seckel," and says that the "tree is the most nearly perfect of any pear grown in America." Went out of favor because it was not as large or pretty as Bartlett. Medium-sized acute pyriform deep dull-yellow fruit with some russeting and no blush is very juicy, sweet and aromatic. Very large vigorous annually productive upright spreading tree. Tolerant of bugs, disease and weather. Fire-blight resistant. Rare. Z4. **ME Grown.**

1638 Tyson, $18.50

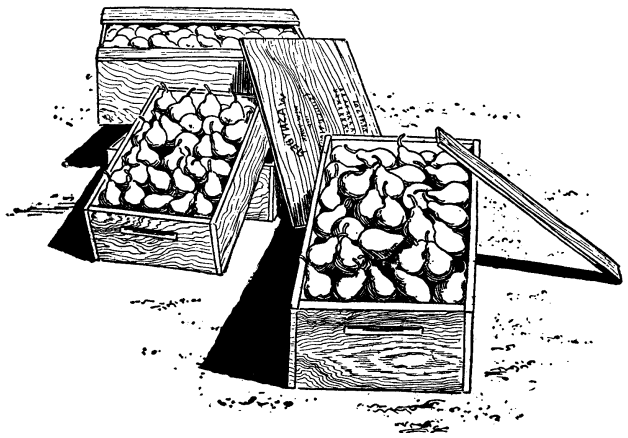
Vermont Beauty Fall. Chance seedling. Grand Isle, VT, about 1860. Most of the high quality pears are rather drab ugly beasts. Vermont Beauty is an exception. The medium-sized obovate-acute pyriform fruit is an alluringly attractive cheerful lemon yellow with a bright red blush that fades into pinkish-red dots. But don't let the good looks freak you out. The yellow-tinged flesh is tender, melting, smooth, dense, fine-grained and juicy, with very few grit cells. Excellent dessert pear that ripens after Seckel and keeps for 5 or 6 weeks. Medium-to-large healthy productive vigorous upright spreading tree. Susceptible to scab. Z4. **ME Grown.**



1645 Vermont Beauty, $18.50

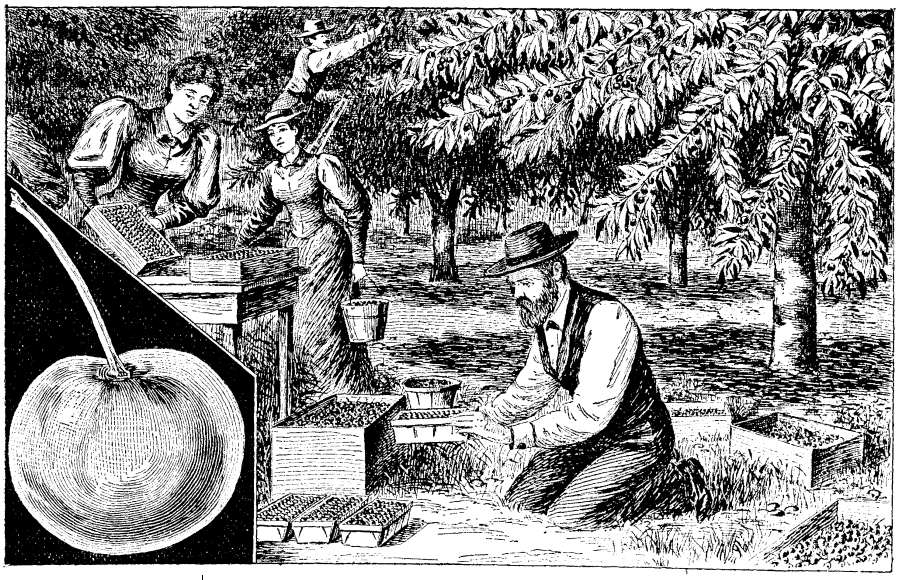
Asian Pears *Pyrus pyrifolia*

Not available in 2006; plan to have back in 2007. If you like crisp "Asian-type" pears, we recommend Gourmet (#**1528**) and Summercrisp (#**1620**).



Stone Fruits

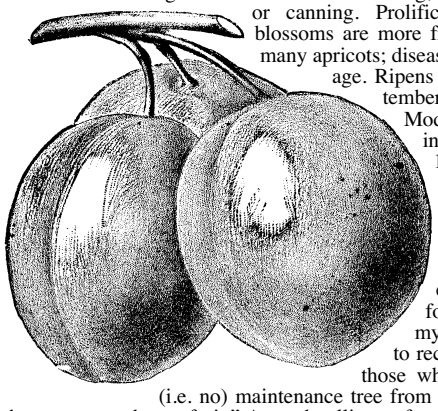
Prunus spp. are widely cultivated around the world and adaptable to most of New England. Not highly particular as to soils. **Clingstone** means the fruit's flesh clings to the pit (or stone) and a **freestone** pit drops away from the flesh.



Apricots

P. armeniaca are native to central Asia, cultivated there for about 4000 years, and only marginally adaptable to northern New England. Because their early blossoms are sensitive to cold spring weather, they are often planted with northern exposures to delay blooming. Large crops are possible, but uncommon, in Maine. The zone rating should be viewed as an approximation because much depends on your site. Many thanks to Bob Purvis of Minnesota who has been coaching us on apricot selection. We will have small quantities of other varieties available at the Tree Sale. Plant 15-20' apart. **Self-pollinating**. (3 1/2-6' trees)

Puget Gold Summer. Originally called Cougar Gold. Chance seedling, possibly of 'Perfection'. Discovered in Anacortes, WA, by Jean Copeland. U of WA intro, 1987. Large (1 3/8-2") roundish-ovate clear yellow red-blushed fruit. Dense firm sweet deep orange-yellow freestone flesh is good to excellent fresh eating, drying or canning. Prolific. The blossoms are more frost-tolerant than those of many apricots; disease resistance is above average. Ripens relatively late, about September 1st in central Maine. Moderately vigorous spreading tree will grow to about 15x15'. Offered with the encouragement of Downeast (coastal) Maine grower Richard "Ozzie" Ossolinski: "Whereas not every PG that I have planted for clients has performed as well as those in my own orchard, I continue to recommend (and plant) it for those who are looking for a low (i.e. no) maintenance tree from which they might actually harvest some decent fruit." A good pollinator for other apricots. Warmer Z5/6. **ME Grown.**



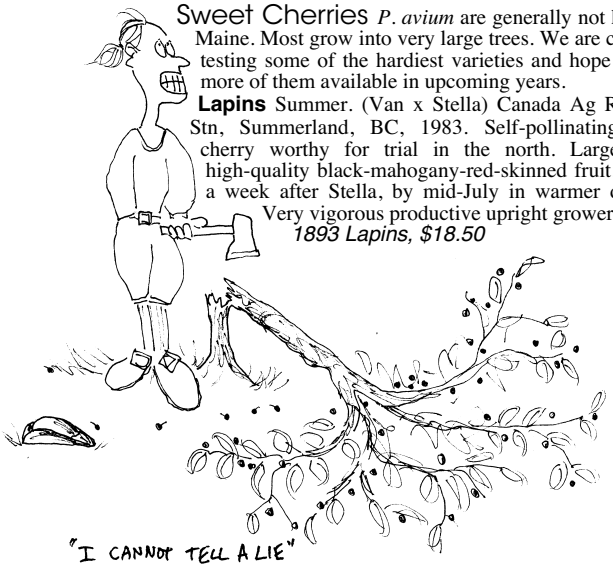
1810 Puget Gold, $18.50

Sweet Cherries

P. avium are generally not hardy in Maine. Most grow into very large trees. We are currently testing some of the hardiest varieties and hope to have more of them available in upcoming years.

Lapins Summer. (Van x Stella) Canada Ag Research Stn, Summerland, BC, 1983. Self-pollinating sweet cherry worthy for trial in the north. Large sweet high-quality black-mahogany-red-skinned fruit. Ripens a week after Stella, by mid-July in warmer districts. Very vigorous productive upright grower. Z5.

1893 Lapins, $18.50

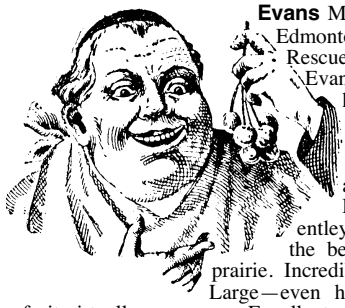


Stella Mid-summer. 2C-27-19 (Lambert x John Innes Sdlg. 2420). Canadian Dept of Ag Research Stn, Summerland, BC, 1968. The first hardy good-quality self-fertile sweet cherry. Large heart-shaped black-skinned fruit has juicy medium-firm black flesh. May be a disappointment to sweet cherry aficionados from the Northwest but could be like a dream come true for orchardists living in more tropical locales of Maine. Fruit buds are relatively tender. Upright spreading vigorous productive tree will grow to 25-30'. Self-pollinating. Z4. (3 1/2-6' trees).

1910 Stella, $18.50

Pie Cherries

P. cerasus are called "sour," but they're delicious enough to eat right off the tree. Often producing crops in 3rd or 4th year, they're easier to grow than sweet cherries, and significantly hardier. They fruit in early to midsummer and don't mind heavy soil. They are generally divided into two groups: Morello types have dark red spherical fruit, dark juice and relatively small compact trees. Montmorency (or Amarelle) types have light red slightly flattened fruit, clear juice and medium-sized somewhat open trees. Although the trees are fully hardy in Zone 3, flower buds may be damaged in colder winters. **Pie cherries do not require another variety for pollination**. Plant 15-20' apart. (3 1/2-6' trees)



Evans Mid-Late Summer. Unknown parentage. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Also called **Bali**. Rescued from obscurity in 1976 by Dr. Ieuan Evans for whom it was named. Thought to have been brought to Alberta by early settlers from Minnesota. Known in the Edmonton area at least back to 1923 but only recently gaining widespread attention through the efforts of Dr. Evans and, more recently, Bill MacKentley of St. Lawrence Nurseries. Currently the best-selling fruit tree on the Canadian prairie. Incredibly hardy, possibly even to Zone 2. Large—even huge—crops of English Morello-type fruit virtually every year. Excellent eating, jams, jellies, pies, dark red juice and wine. Tolerant of a wide range of soils, although light fertile soils are preferred. Naturally dwarf tree. Z3.

1927 Evans, $18.50

Meteor Summer. MN 66 (Montmorency x Vladimir). U Minn, 1952. Considered superior to Montmorency. Very good eating right off the tree. Also excellent for pies, canning and freezing. Easy to pit. Excellent dried. Bright scarlet-red roundish-oval fruit. Clear bright yellow flesh and clear juice. Mildly acid flavor. Ripens after Northstar: mid-July in Central Maine. Reaches 12-16'. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1935 Meteor, $18.50

Montmorency Summer. Seedling of Cerise Hative or Cerise Commune. Montmorency Valley, France, before 1600. Introduced to the U.S. about 1830. The most famous of all pie cherries. Not widely grown in Europe or Russia but long the standard of excellence in the U.S. Firm-fleshed bright red fruit makes a clear light pink juice. Although generally considered not as hardy as our other offerings, friends are growing and fruiting it quite successfully in northern Aroostook County, so it is hardy. Vigorous productive medium-sized upright-spreading tree tolerates a variety of soils. Parent of the fine variety Meteor. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1940 Montmorency, $18.50

Northstar Summer. MN 58 (English Morello x Serbian Pie #1). U Minn, 1950. Morello-type cherry can be eaten fresh when ripe. Large roundish heart-shaped fruit with a small stone. Dark glistening mahogany-red skin. Dark red meaty tender juicy flesh has pleasantly acid flavor. Very productive. A natural dwarf reaching 9-10'. Resistant to brown rot and cracking. Z3. **ME Grown.**

1950 Northstar, $18.50

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

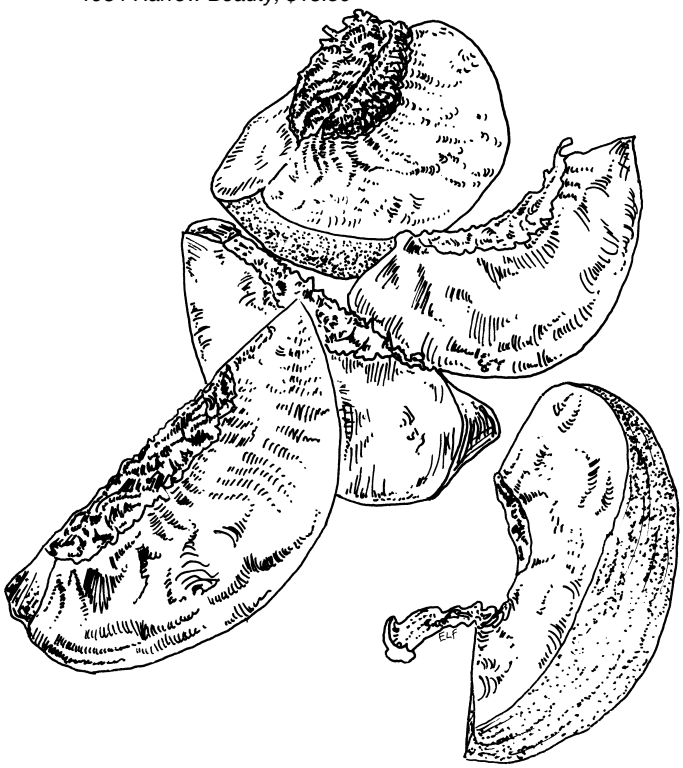
Peaches *P. persica* Although many people will tell you not to bother growing peaches in Maine, if you've been repeatedly saddened by the poor quality available in the supermarket, what's there to lose? Jamie Greager, our lilac grower, has been growing excellent Red Havens a few miles from my farm for years—in Zone 4. Many other trees in northern New England are also producing large crops. While these are certainly not like what you'd get if you went to Georgia, they still taste awfully good. They bear young and so heavily that they may break branches if unthinned or unsupported. Peaches are usually unaffected by pests or diseases in northern areas. The trees may also die unexpectedly at any age. There are no truly hardy peach cultivars, although Reliance is considered the hardiest. **Peach trees do not need a second variety for pollination**. Plant 15-20' apart. (3½-6' trees)

Garnet Beauty Summer. Sport of Red Haven. Ruthven, Ontario, 1958. A mutation (sport) of Red Haven discovered by Garnet Bruner in 1951 and introduced seven years later. Medium to large yellow-fleshed semi-clingstone fruit with excellent flavor. Ripens 12 days earlier than Red Haven with similar hardiness. Vigorous and productive tree. Good bud hardiness. Recommended for colder disticts. Z4/5.

1978 Garnet Beauty, $18.50

Harrow Beauty Summer. HW 231 (Cresthaven x Harken). Harrow Station, Ontario, Canada, 1983. Brilliant red and yellow attractive fruit. Firm freestone yellow flesh. Ripens three weeks after Red Haven, about the same time as Madison. Considered to be as hardy as Red Haven and recommended for trial in colder areas. Tree about the same size as Reliance. Tolerant to perennial canker, bacterial spot and brown rot. Z4/5.

1984 Harrow Beauty, $18.50



Madison Summer. (Ideal x Red Haven) VA Station, 1963. A fine peach for the North, with hardiness similar to Red Haven. Medium-large fruit with bright orange skin and bright red blush. Orange-yellow firm fine-textured juicy flesh with excellent very sweet rich peach flavor. Very good quality. Skin peels easily. Freestone, excellent canner. Very productive tree. Exceptional tolerance to blossom season frost. Z4/5.

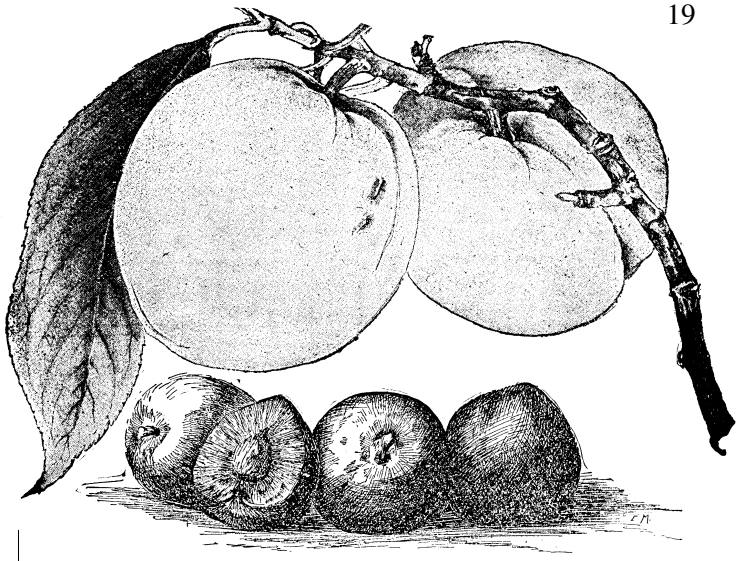
1990 Madison, $18.50

Red Haven Summer. (Halehaven x Kalhaven) MI Ag Exp Station, 1940. Considered hardy, but not as hardy as Reliance. Medium-sized round fruit with beautiful red and golden-yellow skin and sweet firm fine-textured yellow flesh. Non-browning. Excellent for eating, freezing, canning, shipping. Probably the best-flavored peach we offer; also the world's most widely planted freestone peach. Hardy buds; vigorous highly productive disease-resistant spreading trees are tolerant to bacterial spot. Z4/5.

2005 Red Haven, $18.50

Reliance Summer. Open-pollinated seedling of Minn PHO 4559 x Meredith. NH Ag Exp Station, 1964. Considered the hardiest peach. Medium-sized, roundish, freestone. Rather dull red blush over greenish yellow. Bright yellow flesh, soft and juicy. Flavor usually considered fair, but those who grow it in Maine love it. Often produces large crops. Bears at an early age. Appears to be resistant to peach leaf curl in our trials. Z4/5.

2010 Reliance, $18.50



Hybrid Plums *Prunus* spp., are extremely hardy crosses between various Asian plums and American species for hardiness.

Hybrid plum pollination has been glossed over—or avoided—in virtually all catalogs and fruit-growing literature for generations. Some years on our farm we get decent crops, but most years we don't get nearly enough. We have tried a number of different strategies as Fedco catalog readers will know. We still recommend planting the trees close enough together for the branches to "co-mingle." However a recent article by Rick Sawazky of the Department of Plant Sciences, University of Saskatchewan, may provide the breakthrough we've all been searching for:

"Most writers have overlooked or significantly understated the pollination requirements for growing good plum crops. The exception is George F. Chipman who edited the *Prairie Gardener* for many years and who wrote about plum pollination in 1934. He summarized a study done by Prof. W.H. Alderman at the University of Minnesota by saying, '...very few hybrid plums would accept pollen freely from other hybrids, but they all accept pollen from native plums.'"

Our own suspicions, as well as our experiments, appear to corroborate this view. Simply by planting native plum pollinators among the hybrids, it may prove possible to produce large regular crops with very little effort. Hooray! Of course, plums are still susceptible to the small pesky insect, plum curculio. But PC is not difficult to control organically with Surround (see the Organic Growers section of the Seed Catalog). And, with decent pollination, Surround may not even be necessary. Toka, South Dakota and Kaga are often recommended as the best pollinators. We also recommend planting *Prunus americana* or *P. nigra* seedlings in the orchard as pollinators. Stay tuned for more developments. Bloom times similar for all varieties. Not susceptible to black knot. (3½-6' trees)

American Plum Seedling *P. americana* 15-20' Seedling plum that grows in thickets and produces very decent red, yellow and orange 1" fruit, suitable for fresh eating, canning and freezing. Spectacular white bloom in spring. Red fall color. Plant singly as a graceful specimen or plant 2-3' apart and let the branches intertwine for maximum pollination. May be the best pollinator for hybrid plums. See above. These are grafted trees from scionwood that grower Delton Curtis selected from a thicket in Dexter, ME. He's had good luck using these as pollinators although they may not be pure *P. americana*. We are looking for stands of pure *P. americana* or *P. nigra* seedlings. If you know of any, please let us know! Plant one of these for every 3 or 4 plum trees, within 10' of each of them. Extremely hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2028 American Plum Seedling, $18.50

Gracious Late Summer. Mandan 41-15 [open-pollinated seedling of Emerald (*P. salicina* Burbank x *P. a.* Brittlewood) probably x Red Wing (*P. sal.* Burbank x *P. a. mollis* Wolf)]. Northern Great Plains Field Station, Mandan, ND, 1957. Oval-to-roundish yellow-orange fruit with coral-red mottling. Yellow-orange firm juicy sweet flesh. Freestone. Although there are still many plums I've yet to taste, this one rates with Purple Heart as one of my two favorites. A supremely excellent fresh-eating plum. Even with a heavy crop, it's hard to have any left over for its excellent sauce or jam. Upright spreading tree. Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.**

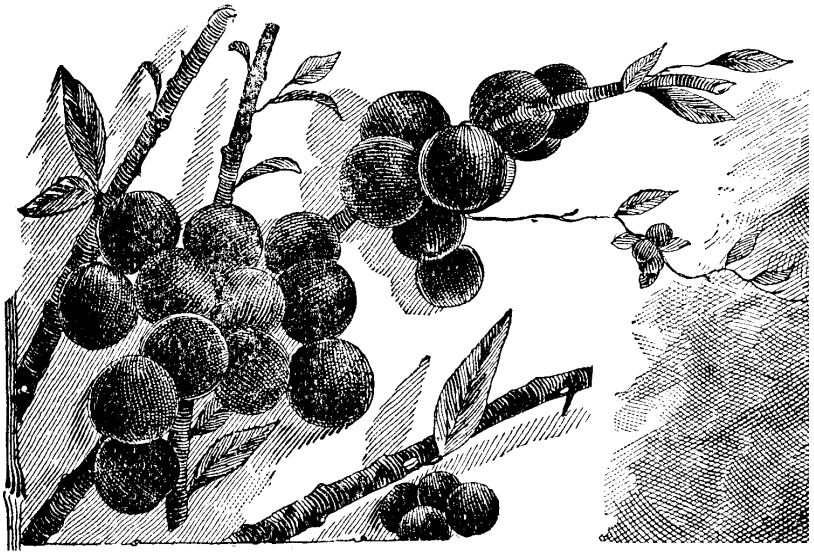
2051 Gracious, $18.50

Kaga Mid-Late Summer. (*P. a.* seedling x *P. simonii*) NE Hansen introduction. SD Stn, 1909. Small 1" purple-black fruit. Good eating out of hand when they're dead ripe. Exceptional in jams and jellies due to the meatiness of the black flesh. This is not one of those plums that dissolves and dribbles down your cheek. The most profuse bloomer in Mark Fulford's plum collection, coming right in the middle of plum season. Mark considers it to be an excellent pollinator for other hybrid plums. It's also been reliably bearing in his Monroe, ME, orchard. I am testing it in Palermo as well. Dense naturally dwarf tree grows only to about 10'. *Kaga* is the Sioux word for 'pitch a tent.' Z3. **ME Grown.**

2057 Kaga, $18.50

Kahinta Mid-Late Summer. Luther Burbank's *P. sal*. Apple x *P. a*. Terry. SD, 1912. Introduced by the great plant breeder N.E. Hansen using the same parentage as another excellent plum, Waneta (#**2117**), and similar to it. Large 1 1/2" roundish slightly pointed fruit, flattened at the stem end. Tart brilliant red-purple skin and tart but quite flavorful translucent yellow-orange flesh. Easy to peel; peeled fruit looks like a peeled tangerine. Or you can bite a small hole in the skin and suck out the juicy flesh. Clingstone. Very good for fresh eating or canning. Medium-sized spreading tree. Kept pruned, my 20-year-old tree remains about 8 feet tall. Bears more reliably than most other varieties in my orchard. *Kahinta* is the Sioux word for 'sweep.' Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2060 Kahinta, $18.50



La Crescent Late Summer. (Shiro x *P. a*. Howard Yellow) U Minn, 1923. Also known as **Golden La Crescent** or **Golden Minnesota**. Roundish 1 1/2" tender thin-skinned yellow fruit sometimes with pink blush. Tender yellow juicy flesh. Excellent quality, sweet aromatic and suggestive of apricots. Freestone. Upright spreading vigorous tree. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2064 La Crescent, $18.50

Pembina Late Summer. (*P. sal*. Red June x *P. nigra* Assiniboine) Intro by NE Hansen, SD Exp Stn, 1923. Large pointy bright red fruit with bluish bloom. Sweet, firm but juicy, yellow flesh. Outstanding fresh eating. Bob Purvis, former North American Fruit Explorers president and longtime unofficial Fedco consultant, originally recommended we offer Pembina. He knew the plum in Anchorage where it survived -34°. Customers have asked about suitable pollinators. Bob suggested Toka, Underwood or *P. americana*. Now I have it on trial at Super Chilly Farm and I'll keep you posted on its doings in central Maine. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2075 Pembina, $18.50

Purple Heart Late Summer. Unknown parentage, from Enfield, NH. Brought to the great plant breeder, Professor EM Meader, by a man who passed away before Meader could ascertain its origin. Becomes a favorite of anyone who grows it. Medium-sized fruit with red-purple skin and flesh, and a delicate but full sweet flavor. The most delicious plum we grow. You'll have to fend off ravenous neighbors when the Purple Hearts are ripe. Flowers are able to withstand spring frosts. Excellent shape, easy to pick, productive and healthy tree. Shows tip damage following colder winters. Not as hardy as other hybrids. Has shown susceptility to black knot in our orchard. In short supply. Z4. **ME Grown.**

2085 Purple Heart, $18.50

Shiro Midsummer. Uncertain parentage (thought to be *P. sim*. x *P. sal.)*. Luther Burbank introduction, California, 1899. Although Shiro's parentage is unclear—it may be a pure Japanese type—it's hardy for much of Maine, especially along the coast and Portland south. The 1 1/2" round-conic thin-skinned fruit is light yellow, deepening as the season progresses and sometimes colored with a pinkish blush. The sweet chin-dribbling light-yellow translucent flesh is so juicy you might have to drink it lest it soak your shirt. Or skip the mess and can or jam them. Broadly spreading picturesque tree will eventually span 30' or more but tops off at only 10 or 12'. Pollinate as you would other hybrids. Z5. **ME Grown.**

2092 Shiro, $18.50

Superior Late Summer. MN 194 [*P. sal*. 'Burbank' x 'Kaga' (*P. a*. x *P. sim*.)]. U Minn, 1933. Very large conical dark red plum with a heavy bloom and 'superior' dessert quality. Firm sweet yellow flesh is smooth textured, extremely juicy and clingstone. Very good fresh eating. During the terribly cold wet summer of 2004 when a number of my younger plum trees were hammered with brown rot, my Superior came through unharmed. I was impressed. Precocious production, vigorous tree. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2100 Superior, $18.50

Tecumseh Midsummer. (Shiro x *P. hortulana* Surprise) SD Stn, 1923. Considered by some enthusiasts to be one of N.E. Hansen's best introductions. Excellent fresh eating. Round-ovate bright red fruit with a bluish bloom. Firm juicy subacid yellow flesh. Named in honor of the great Shawnee Chief Tecumseh who refused to sign the Treaty of Greenville in 1795. Recently I read that some years later the legendary chief predicted—and some say precipitated—the three devastating earthquakes of December 1811 and early 1812, thought to be the worst quakes ever to strike North America. My reliable rugged productive medium-sized rounded tree with its unusual greyish-brown bark has withstood varying events, though it might not take "8.1." Z3. **ME Grown.**

2104 Tecumseh, $18.50

Toka Late Summer. *P. a*. x *P. sim*. (Chinese apricot plum). Intro by NE Hansen, SD Exp Stn, 1911. Rosy red fruit, up to 1 1/2" in diameter, mottled with darker purply red and covered with a faint bloom. Grower Don Johnson's comment was, "Talk about flavor: candy plum." Ed Fackler called Toka the best-flavored plum he grew in his Indiana orchard. Sweet, distinctive, meaty and flavorful. Not real juicy. Extremely vigorous tree blooms heavily every year. Diligent pruning may be required to keep it from becoming a bit of a monster. Considered to be a good pollinator for other hybrid plums. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2108 Toka, $18.50

Underwood Midsummer. MN 91 (Shiro x *P. a*. Wyant). U Minn, 1920. Medium to large 2" fruit. Yellow skin with dull red overcoat. Firm sweet juicy golden-yellow freestone flesh, good for eating and cooking. Northern Maine grower Steve Miller considers it to be one of his most reliable bearers. Long picking season. Vigorous large spreading tree blooms early. Z3. **ME Grown.**

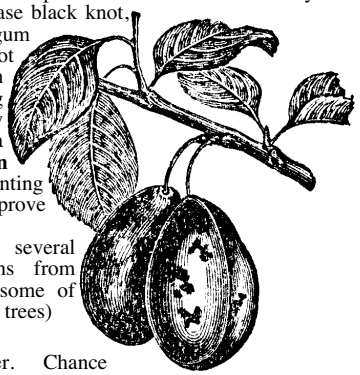
2112 Underwood, $18.50

Waneta Midsummer. (*P. sal*. Apple x *P. a*. Terry) NE Hansen intro, SD Exp Stn, 1913. Released one year after Kahinta, and with the same parentage, when hybrid plums were an important and commercially viable crop. Named after a Yanktonai youth who won fame in the War of 1812 and later became a great chief. Large 1 1/2-2" reddish-maroon fruit, slightly less pointed than Kahinta (#**2060**). Sweet tender translucent orange flesh is very juicy but not dripping. Medium-thick skin, tart and easy to peel. Delicious overall taste. Hansen said of Waneta: "My belief is that in this variety I have combined the best points of the native and the Japanese plum. It is probably the largest [fruit] of over 10,000 seedlings." Early-blooming healthy open spreading tree bears reliably in our orchard. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2117 Waneta, $18.50

European plums

P. domestica Although also delicious fresh, this is the plum that is grown commercially for prunes. A true prune is a plum that can be dried without the pit fermenting. European plums produce smaller fruit and are generally not as hardy as the hybrid plums, though they can handle heavier soils and are less prone to brown rot. Unlike hybrids, they are prone to the fungal disease black knot, which looks like black chewing gum and appears on branches. While not necessarily fatal, it must be kept in check by removing and destroying infected branches. Trees grow upright and are usually trained to a central leader. Although **European plums are self-pollinating**, planting two different varieties will improve pollination.



We are currently testing several extremely hardy old Europeans from northern Maine and will offer some of them in the next few years. (3 1/2-6' trees)

Mount Royal Late Summer. Chance seedling, Outremont, Québec, before 1903. Popular plum in Québec and the northern U.S. for many years, also called **Mont-Royal**. Bears abundant annual crops of medium-sized roundish dark purple fruit, often considered the sweetest of the European plums. The flesh is greenish-yellow, juicy and firm. Use fresh, dried, frozen, canned and in preserves. Medium-sized tree is open, requires only moderate pruning. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2149 Mount Royal, $18.50

Stanley Late Summer. (*P. d*. Agen x *P. d*. Grand Duke) NY Station, 1926. Most popular European prune plum in America. Excellent for cooking, eating, canning and drying. Medium-to-large fruits with dark blue skin. Green-yellow firm but tender juicy fine-grained sweet flesh. Reliably bearing fast-growing adaptable medium-to-large funnel-shaped tree produces healthy vigorous annual crops. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2180 Stanley, $18.50

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Small Fruits & Berries

Lowbush Blueberry *Vaccinium angustifolium* 6x24" Blueberry growers in Maine usually don't bother with the "lowbush" distinction; to them, this is the only true blueberry. Though both plants and berries are diminutive, the taste is supreme. Lustrous blue-green foliage in summer followed by an amazing combination of bronze, orange and scarlet in the fall. Grown in Maine long before Europeans came Downeast, where thousands of acres are now under production. Commercial blueberry land is burned in the spring to clear out the weed competition. A crop will then follow a year later. To speed harvesting, berries are usually raked rather than hand-picked. I do either, depending on my mood and the availability of my rake. You don't have to burn and rake to have a small-scale planting. Native to northeastern U.S. Z2. **ME Grown.** (2-yr transplants)

2260 Lowbush Blueberry, $9.00

Lowbush Blueberries

Woodsy dry poor acid soil (pH 4.0-5.2) is a prerequisite for lowbush blueberries. If you've got white pine, you're probably all set. Plant 12" apart each way and cultivate as a ground cover. Generally self-pollinating; other blueberries nearby will help ensure pollination. Full sun is best for maximum fruit production. Keep your patch weed free.

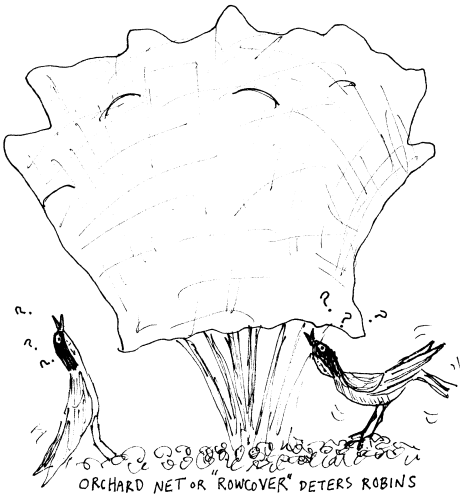
Highbush Blueberries *V. corymbosum* are native to North America. While usually associated with New Jersey and Michigan, many of Maine's lakes are lined with massive stands of highbush blueberries. Grazing the shore requires only time and a suitable vessel; I prefer kayak or canoe. The beautiful vigorous shrubs are extremely easy to grow at home, productive and reliable, with few disease or insect problems. By planting several varieties, you can harvest berries from early July through most of August. **Two varieties are required, three or more recommended, for pollination**. (12-30" 2-yr old plants)

Bluecrop Early-Midseason. GM 37 (Jersey x Pioneer) x CU-5 (Stanley x June). USDA, NJ, 1952. Medium-sized firm subacid fruit; very light blue berries of high dessert quality, resistant to cracking. Medium-large open clusters. Vigorous, upright 4-6' consistently productive bush. Ripens over a long season. May not be perfectly ripe when they first turn blue. Give them a few more days to reach full flavor before picking. Pruning will help maintain fruit size. Z4. **ME Grown.**

2280 Bluecrop, $8.75

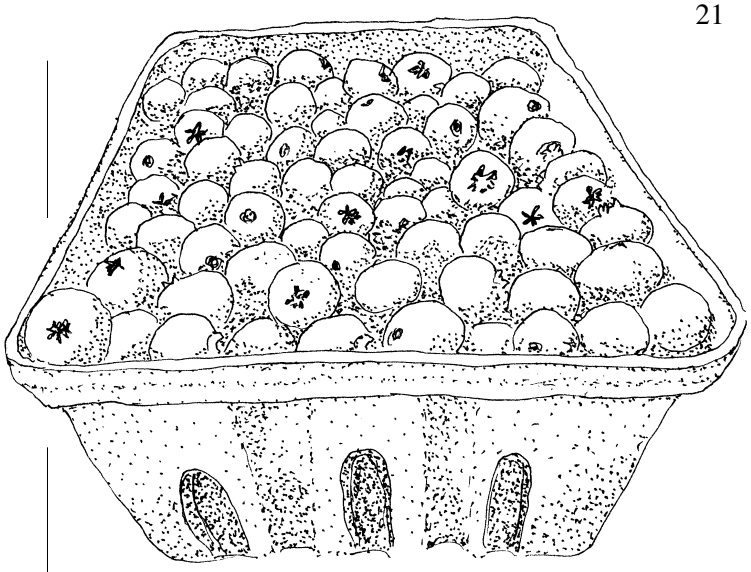
Blueray Mid. (GM 37 x CU-5) USDA, NJ, 1955. Large firm dark blue berries of high dessert quality in small clusters. Considered the best-tasting by nearly everyone who grows highbush blueberries. Very vigorous 4-6' bush with upright spreading habit. Consistently productive. Z4. **ME Grown.**

2285 Blueray, $8.75



Duke Early. G-100 (Ivanhoe x Earliblue) x 192-8 (E-30 x E-11). USDA, NJ, 1987. Recent release considered a big improvement over Earliblue, the standard early cultivar. Firm medium-sized light blue fruit with mild sweet flavor, excellent for fresh eating or processing. Vigorous upright high-yielding 4-6' bush. Long stems and loose clusters. Z4.

2295 Duke Blueberry, $8.75



Jersey Mid-Late. (Rubel x Grover) USDA, 1928. Medium-to-large dark blue berries in large loose clusters. Vigorous erect hardy bush, 5-7' tall. Productive, widely grown, adapted to a wide range of soils, highly praised, easy to grow and suited to the New England climate. We're very pleased to have this old standard on the list. Z4. **ME Grown.**

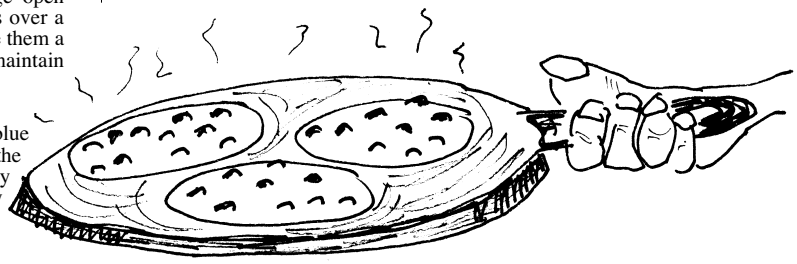
2310 Jersey, $8.75

Northland Early. (Berkeley x 19-H) Mich St U, 1967. Early highbush x lowbush type bears long loose clusters of medium-small dark blue berries with excellent wild flavor. Very vigorous and productive, 3' moderately spreading bush has limber branches which tolerate snow well. Good landscape, bird forage and dessert qualities. Hardy. Z3.

2325 Northland, $8.75

Patriot Early-Mid. US3 (Dixi x Michigan LB-1) x Earliblue (Stanley x Weymouth). U Maine, 1976. Partial lowbush parentage. Adaptable to many soil types. Large firm berries with good color and excellent flavor. Upright open spreading 4' bush. Tolerant or resistant to some strains of soil fungus. Hardy. Z3.

2335 Patriot, $8.75



Highbush Blueberries are shallow-rooted and like light acid soil (pH 4.0-5.2), plenty of water, good drainage, and plenty of organic matter. Space them 3-6' apart, towards 3' for the shorter varieties, in rows 8-10' apart. If your soil is lacking acidity, add peat, woods humus, or 1 cup elemental sulfur per bush.

Dig a hole at least twice the size of the root ball. If you use peat, soak it and then mix it with soil at a one-to-one ratio. We suggest soaking roots in Agri-gel. Plant at the same depth as in the nursery (or slightly deeper). Do not let the roots dry out! Pack the soil firmly and water thoroughly. At planting time, prune off 1/3 to 1/2 of all growth. Plants require at least 1" water per week during the growing season. On most soils, blueberries require regular applications of nitrogen. In the spring, fertilize with 21-0-0 fertilizer at a rate of 1-2 tablespoons per year-of-age plant (e.g., 3-6 Tb for a 3-year-old plant). Or use an organic equivalent such as 1/2-1 qt composted hen manure per plant.

Fruit is produced on vigorous one-year shoots off healthy canes. As canes age they become twiggy and less productive. Begin pruning after three years. Head back long pieces of new growth for a bushier plant. Cut out weak or dead canes and dead tips. Each bush should be allowed to grow 6-10 canes varying in age from one to six years old. Thereafter, remove dead canes and those over 6 years old and encourage new replacement canes. Bushes with regular moderate pruning produce the most berries.

Berries may need net protection from birds. One of the best arrangements I've seen is John Meader's netted "house" in Buckfield. He has about 40 bushes growing under a framework made of posts and 2x4s and completely covered in netting.

Competition with grass may weaken and kill your blueberries. Mulch heavily (3-6" or more) every year with pine needles, cardboard, wood chips, hay, sawdust, even old slab wood. When using sawdust you may want to compensate by adding extra nitrogen.

Grapes *Vitis* spp. Grapes are easy to grow and can bear plentifully even in northern New England. Our vines bear consistently and heavily almost every year. You can eat seeded varieties right off the vine if you don't mind "grape nuts."

Most grape varieties are bred from a combination of different species, *V. labrusca* and *V. vinifera* being the most important. *Labrusca* is native to the eastern U.S., has a wild tart musky (or foxy) flavor, and is hardy and disease-resistant. Concord is the best-known of the Labruscas. *Vinifera*, native to Europe, is extremely high quality and the most important wine grape in the world, but is not hardy and is prone to disease. Riesling and Chardonnay are the two hardiest pure *vinifera* grapes.

In central Maine, "very early" grapes begin ripening in mid-August, while "midseason" ripen mid-September. Late-season Concord, a standard elsewhere, does not ripen in many northern areas. **Most do not require a second cultivar for pollination.** (1-2 yr well-rooted vines)

Beta Midseason. (*V. riparia* x Concord) Originated by Louis Suelter (pronounced *Sool*-ter) in Minn, 1881. Beta was named after his wife and is pronounced *Bett*-uh not *Bay*-tuh. Old standby, excellent for juice, jelly and jam. Good eating off the vine when completely ripe. Medium-sized black berries in moderately compact to loose clusters. Early to bloom, early to ripen. Vigorous healthy productive vines, extremely hardy. Z3. **ME Grown.**

2370 Beta, $8.50

Bluebell Mid. MN 158 (Beta x unknown). Developed by JM Dorsey, U Minn, 1944. Our most popular seeded grape; it does everything well. Extremely hardy (-30˚F) labrusca type ripens 2-3 weeks earlier than Concord. Delicious sweet flavor makes them excellent for fresh eating, jelly and juice. Clusters of medium-sized dark berries with a heavy blue bloom. Strong, productive, vigorous—but not rampant—vine. Immune to most or all fungal diseases. Rare. Z3. **ME Grown.**

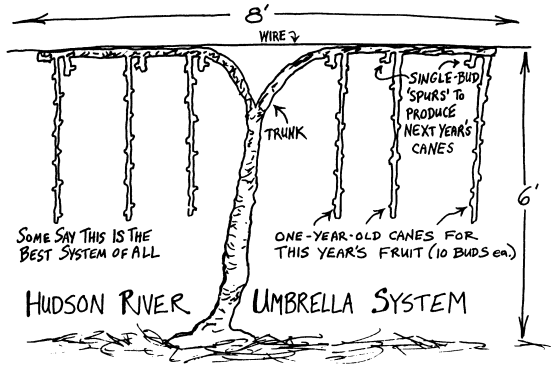
2380 Bluebell, $8.50

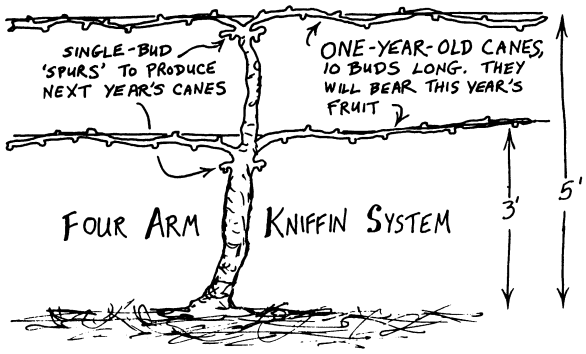
Grapes prefer soils with pH of 5.5-6.5. They can stand a lot of heat. Try planting them near a stone wall, a big boulder, or the south side of a building, in full sun. Full sun is important. Although soil should not be rich, it should be well-drained with plenty of organic matter. Space them 8-12' apart in rows 8-12' apart.

Spread the roots out, planting the crown even with the soil surface. Do not prune roots. Pack soil well. Water and mulch well. After frost danger has passed, prune vines back to 3-5 strong buds. In later years spread compost and mulch with hay or straw.

Grapes require annual pruning and a trellis or arbor, though some friends let them grow right up into trees. All systems for growing grapes involve removal of most growth in spring or late fall, encouraging new canes, as fruit is produced on these canes. There are many systems for training grapes. Some are suited to laying down and covering tender varieties over winter. Any good book on grape growing will show you several options. We suggest the Hudson River Umbrella or the Four-arm Kniffin system.

Grapes rated for Zone 5 can be grown in Zones 3 and 4. To prevent winter injury, remove the vine from the trellis in fall, lay it on the ground, and bury with just enough soil to cover. This task is neither difficult nor time-consuming, and does work.


8'
WIRE
TRUNK
SINGLE-BUD 'SPURS' TO PRODUCE NEXT YEAR'S CANES
6'
SOME SAY THIS IS THE BEST SYSTEM OF ALL
ONE-YEAR-OLD CANES FOR THIS YEAR'S FRUIT (10 BUDS ea.)
HUDSON RIVER UMBRELLA SYSTEM


SINGLE-BUD 'SPURS' TO PRODUCE NEXT YEAR'S CANES
ONE-YEAR-OLD CANES, 10 BUDS LONG. THEY WILL BEAR THIS YEAR'S FRUIT
3'
5'
FOUR ARM KNIFFIN SYSTEM

Pruning Grapes in the Four-Arm Kniffin System

First year: Cut plant back when planting to a single stem, 6" long with two to three buds, after the last danger of frost has passed.

Second year: Set up two wires, 3' and 5' high, stretched between posts. Cut plant back to a single stem, 6 feet long and tie it to the top wire. Leave 4-6 buds near each wire and remove others.

Third year: Select 8 canes, 4 for each wire, and remove the rest. Tie two canes to each wire, one in each direction. Cut these four canes back to 10 buds each. Cut the remaining four canes back to two buds each.

Later years: In the spring, remove last year's fruiting canes. Select eight new canes. Cut 4 of them to 10 buds each, and tie them to your wires. Cut the remaining four back to two buds each. These will produce next year's fruiting canes. Remove all other canes. The number of buds left on the fruiting canes may be adjusted to encourage more fruit or larger size.

Growing Grapes on an Arbor

Train one or more vines onto an arbor or gazebo. Encourage several permanent arms off the trunk and then every winter remove 70-90% of the the past summer's growth. Next summer new fruiting canes will grow off your permanent arms.

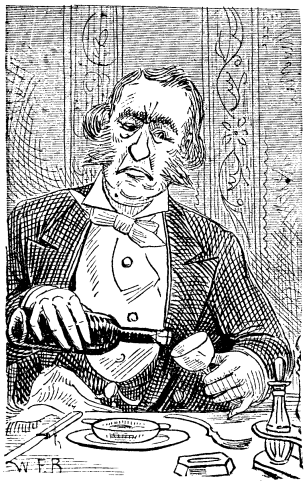
Chontay Early. (Massasoit x Beta) Brookings, NE Hansen intro, SD Stn, 1925. A generally forgotten variety from the upper midwest that we've been trialing in our vineyard for the past 15 years. Medium-sized loose clusters of large purple fruit. Good fresh eating. In an old issue of the Minnesota Grape Growers *Notes from the North*, Tom Plocher wrote, "I have grown kind of fond of this grape for its beauty, and spicy, fruity (but not labrusca) flavor, not to mention its hardiness. It was one of the few varieties that bore fruit this year following our -41˚ winter." Not considered a wine grape unless you like a strong-flavored brew. Some do. Vigorous vine. Z3-4. **ME Grown.**

2397 Chontay, $8.50

Fredonia Early. (Champion x Lucile) NY St Ag Exp Stn, 1927. Blue-black thick-skinned Concord-type grape ripens three weeks before Concord. Large cylindrical compact clusters of medium-large berries. Best juiced, jellied and jammed. Better fresh eating than Beta or Valiant. Vigorous fairly productive vine. For largest crops, don't prune heavily: the extra cane footage will increase production. Hardier than Worden though not as hardy as Beta and Valiant. Z4. **ME Grown.**

2430 Fredonia, $8.50

Frontenac Mid-Late. MN1047 *V. riparia* 'RIP 89' x Landot 4511. U Minn, about 1995. An excellent new hardy red wine grape from the University of Minnesota's grape breeding project. No labrusca or riparia flavor. Wine has been winning acclaim throughout the Upper Midwest and has even been mistaken for Pinot Noir by reputable wine judges (though not featured in *Sideways*). Very large loose clusters of small berries. Vigorous very productive largely disease-free vines. In *Notes from the North*, John Marshall writes, "Though the sugar may rise to impressive levels early in September, the grapes are not nearly ripe. Ignore the sugar levels and wait until September 20th. The acid will drop and the wonderful black cherry flavors that will make this grape famous will multiply." Maine grape researcher and tester Jerry Rodman adds, "Frontenac has made some good wines, but is very high in acid and is probably best for areas with high heat accumulation (which helps to lower its acid)." Z4/5.



2435 Frontenac, $8.50

Kay Gray Mid. ES217 (MN78 x Golden Muscat) x open-pollinated (Onaka?) Elmer Swenson introduction, Osceola, WI, 1981. Medium-sized golden-white slip-skin berries in medium-sized tight clusters. Mild sweet fruity flavor. For dessert or juice and a decent wine for blending. Some years it will produce an exceptional varietal wine on its own. Extremely good disease resistance. Very reliable moderately vigorous productive vine. Very hardy. Z3.

2450 Kay Gray, $8.50

Reliance Seedless Very Early. Arkansas 1163 (Ontario x Suffolk Red). Arkansas Stn, 1982. Probably the highest-quality seedless grape for the North. Large loose clusters of tender melting sweet pinkish-red fruit with a strawberry-like flavor. Fresh eating or juice. Stores well in root cellar for 1-2 months. Seems perfectly hardy in our Zone 4 trials. Lay vines down for the winter in coldest areas. Extraordinarily vigorous disease-resistant vines. Z4/5.

2485 Reliance Seedless, $8.50

St. Croix Mid. ES 242 (ES 283 x ES 193). Swenson intro, Osceola, WI. Juicy low-acid medium-sized blue grapes in medium-sized bunches. High quality pale red juice and vinifera-type fruity dry red wine. Very popular as the primary variety in blended red wines produced by Minnesota's small but thriving wine industry. Disease resistant. Extremely hardy. Z3/4.

2495 St. Croix, $8.50

Somerset Seedless Very Early. ES 12-7-98 (ES5-4-64 x Petite Jewell) Elmer Swenson intro. One of the renowned and beloved grape breeder's last introductions. Although not as hardy as Beta, Bluebell, Chontay and others, Somerset is likely the hardiest seedless grape available today. Ripens as early as the beginning of August in some locations. Easy to grow and not overly vigorous. Medium-sized loose clusters. Very tasty sweet small orange-red fruit. Somerset is likely to become quite popular in the next few years. We're very excited to be offering vines this year. Limited availability; order early. Z4.

2512 Somerset Seedless, $8.50

Classic Reference Books for Fruit and Ornamental Growers

There are many good books for fruit and ornamental tree enthusiasts. Here are a few of my favorites. Most are out of print but may be in a local college or university library. Some can be found for sale in used book sites online. You can find many good recently published offerings in the book section of the Seed Catalog.

Fruit:

A View of the Cultivation of Fruit Trees, William Coxe. Philadelphia, 1817.
The New American Orchardist, William Kendrick. Boston, 1833.
The American Fruit Book, SW Cole. New York, 1849.
American Fruit-Growers Guide, FR Elliott. New York, 1854.
The Fruits and Fruit-Trees of America, AJ Downing. New York, 1886. (numerous editions – the 1886 edition has additional appendices)
Plums and Plum Culture, FA Waugh. New York, 1901
The Fruits of New York, 1905: A series that includes volumes covering all the major tree fruits and small fruits. The two-volume *Apples of New York* by SA Beach is best reference for apple identification through 1905.
The American Fruit Culturist, John J Thomas. New York, 1908
Cyclopedia of Hardy Fruits, UP Hedrick. New York, 1922.
Register of New Fruit and Nut Varieties, 2nd edition, Brooks and Olmo. University of California Press, 1972. All the minutia, introduction dates, etc. for the serious enthusiast. 3rd edition includes more recent introductions but lacks information from the 2nd edition.
Cornucopia II: A Sourcebook of Edible Plants, Stephen Facciola, Kampong Publications, CA, 1998. Very useful but many sources are out of date.
Fruit, Nut, and Berry Inventory, 3rd edition, Kent Whealy. Seed Savers Exchange, Iowa, 2001. Very useful but many sources are out of date.

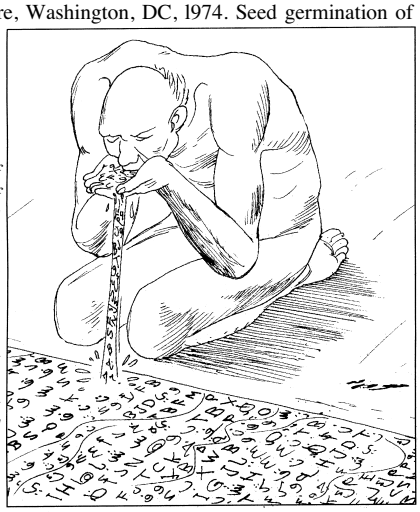
Ornamentals:

Manual of Woody Landscape Plants, 5th edition, Michael A Dirr. Stipes Publishing, Champaign, IL, 1998. The best reference for woody plants. Stay away from the recent edition with photos. Get the original with line drawings.
*The Best of the Hardies*t, 3rd edition, John J Sabuco. Plantsman's Publications, 1989. Second only to Dirr.
Flowering Crabapples: The Genus Malus, John J Fiala. Oregon, 1995.
Lilacs: The Genus Syringa, John L Fiala. Timber Press, Oregon, 2002.
Tree Crops: A Permanent Agriculture, J Russell Smith. New York, 1950.
Seeds of Woody Plants in the United States, Agricultural Handbook No. 450. US Dept of Agriculture, Washington, DC, 1974. Seed germination of woody plants.

Two Internet Sites:

hortweb.cas.psu.edu/aps/aony/aony1.html has links to the illustrations in Volumes 1 and 2 of *The Apples of New York, The Pears of New York* and *The Small Fruits of New York*.

chla.library-cornell.edu, an online library of horticultural reference materials, includes *The Apples of New York*, *American Fruit Growers Guide* (listed as the *Hand-book for Fruit Growers*) and *Plums and Plum Culture*.



Raspberries *Rubus* spp.

The ruby red and golden yellow cultivated raspberries growing in the garden are native to North America, Europe and Asia. They are usually identified as *R. ideaus* or *R. ideaus* var *stirgosus*. Hyland and Steinmetz's *Trees and Other Woody Plants of Maine* lists 53 different *Rubus* species and subspecies.

Everbearing types bear on first-year canes or primocanes. We don't offer Heritage, a popular producer of high-quality fruit, because it ripens too late for growers in Zone 4 and cold areas of Zone 5.

Summer-bearing cultivars bear on second-year canes or floricanes. Harvest leaves for medicinal use from first-year canes of summer-bearing varieties. A leaf and fruit vinegar is very high in minerals, and the leaf tea makes a great tonic for both uterus and prostate.

A second variety is not needed for pollination. Prior to planting, soak canes in Agri-gel, in the sidebar and also available in the Organic Growers Supply section of the Seed catalog. (well-rooted bare-root canes)

Kiwigold Everbearing Late. Sport of Heritage. Murrinsville, New Zealand. Yellow-fruited everbearing (primocane) type with a ripening time similar to Heritage. While the canes are hardy in central Maine, fruit may not ripen reliably north of Portland. Yellow berries with a developing blush when over-ripe. Good flavor, size and color. Z5.

2668 Kiwigold Everbearing, bundle of 10, $16.00

Nova Mid-season. (Southland x Boyne) Kentville, Nova Scotia, 1981. Midseason red introduced relatively recently. In our trials Nova appears to be hardier than Boyne with fruit quality as good as or better than Boyne. Medium-sized firm somewhat acid bright red fruit. Summer-bearing. Upright productive minimally spiny canes produce long fruiting laterals which make the fruit easy to pick. Z3.

2685 Nova, bundle of 10, $16.00
2686 Nova, bundle of 25, $26.00

Raspberries and Blackberries

Cane fruits have shallow perennial roots and biennial fruiting canes. They prefer full sun, good air circulation and well-drained soil, rich in organic matter, with pH of 5.8-6.2. Avoid soils where tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, strawberries or wild brambles have grown because they all are subject to verticillium wilt, which may remain in the soil. Plant rows 6-12' apart to facilitate cultivation. See below for planting distances. Before planting, work into the soil 15 bushels dry manure or 10 bushels fresh manure per 100 sq feet. A well-kept patch can last for 10-20 years.

Be sure each hole is large enough to spread out the roots. Do not allow the fine roots to dry out. We suggest soaking roots in Agri-gel for 1-2 hours before planting. Plant 1-2" deeper than in the nursery and then cut the canes off at ground level.

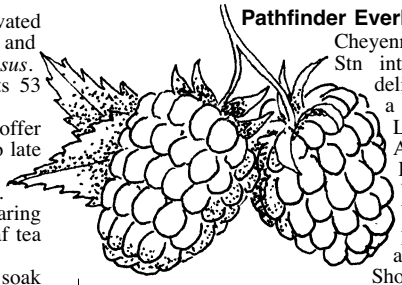
Cane fruits should be trellised between two temporary or permanent wires about 3-4' off the ground and 18-36" apart. Mulch with a thick layer of woodchips or sawdust. Fertilize liberally each spring with up to 100 lbs manure or compost, 8 lbs bloodmeal or 14 lbs cottonseed meal per 100 foot row. Plants require 2" water per week during the growing season.

• Summer-bearing varieties: Space 2' apart. After harvest, prune to the ground the canes that carried fruit or remove them the following spring. Thin the fresh first year canes to about 3-4" apart. They will bear fruit next year. During the growing season cut back canes to 5' if they are bending over severely.

• Purple and black raspberries: Plant in hills 3' apart. Basic pruning is same as summer-bearing varieties. As they fill in, thin to 5-8 canes per hill. During the early summer, pinch back tip of first year canes to 2½-3' tall. This will encourage lateral fruiting branches. These will need very little, if any, support and may not require trellising. In the following spring, cut these fruiting laterals back to 8-12 buds.

• Everbearing Raspberries: Plant 9-15" apart. Cut all canes to the ground in late fall after leaves drop, or in early spring; first-year canes will fruit in mid-late summer.

• Space blackberries 3-4' apart.



Pathfinder Everbearing Red (67-10) Mid. August Red x Cheyenne 62-17 (*R. strigosus*). US Ag Research Stn intro, Cheyenne, WY, 1976. Large firm delicious light red berries ripen in August over a period of several weeks well before frost. Last summer our first fruits ripened on August 7th. A few years ago I began trialing Pathfinder at the recommedation of grower Walter Morss of Boxford, MA. We have been extremely pleased. We now have plants on trial elsewhere in Massachusetts as well as in two more Maine locations. Short strongly suckering productive plants will fill in the row quickly. Cut the canes back to the ground in late fall or early spring. Unfortunatley WK Morss and Son may be going out of business this year. We are hoping that they can supply us with plants at least this once. We plan to be offering our own in years to come. Z3-4.

2688 Pathfinder, bundle of 10, $24.00

Prelude Early. NY 1009. NY St Exp Stn. We decided to offer this newly developed red raspberry after several years of trials at John and Pat Meader's Maine Hardy Nursery in Buckfield. John wrote, "I'd strongly recommend Prelude. It showed hardiness equal to Boyne last winter [2002-03] and fruits the earliest of all varieties I've observed (over 30).…Prelude would preceed Boyne nicely; it has good fruit (taste, firmness, size) and seems quite productive; it fruits well over two full weeks." Firm red medium-sized fruit is easy to see and pick, ripens in central Maine in early-mid July. Can be grown as a primocane type or floricane type. Suckers freely. Z4.

2690 Prelude, bundle of 10, $16.00
2691 Prelude, bundle of 25, $26.00

Royalty Purple Mid. (Cumberland x Newburgh) x (Newburgh x Indian Summer). NY Stn, 1982. Distinctly flavored cohesive fairly firm large berries make outstanding jam and jelly, and even better fresh eating. Their flavor is different from the red raspberries, with a hint of black-raspberry. Extremely robust minimally suckering plants are very productive and open-formed; the berries are right in your face and easy to pick. Ready to harvest when they are deep purple, somewhat later than the reds. Summer-bearing. Plant in hills (see sidebar). Usually considered Zone 4 but is proving itself into Zone 3 with occasional slight tip dieback. Z3/4.

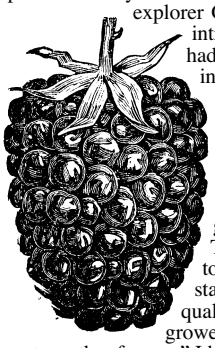
2700 Royalty Purple, bundle of 10, $28.00

Taylor Mid. (Newman x Lloyd George) NY Stn, 1935. Often considered the best-flavored raspberry, as well as one of the hardiest, though suffers minor frost damage in Zone 3. Large pinkish-red fruits are firm, long, conic. Vigorous highly productive sturdy canes can grow up to 9', though usually need no support. Summer-bearer adaptable for "you-pick" and commercial use. In some places virus has caused canes to die out after a few years. Z4.

2720 Taylor, bundle of 10, $16.00
2721 Taylor, bundle of 25, $26.00

Blackberries *Rubus* spp.

Fort Kent King Unknown parentage, Aroostook County, ME. An extremely hardy blackberry of commercial potential for those who have planted "hardy" blackberries in the past and have been disappointed. Plant explorer Garfield King of Fort Kent, in northernmost Maine, introduced this berry to us in the late 1990s. Garfield had found it many years earlier on an abandoned farm in central Aroostook. He brought some plants up to Fort Kent and grew them in Zone 3 with great success. But up there, the deep snow protects the plants. We began to test them around Maine in less hospitable locations six years ago and since 2002 have been testing them around the country. Although those trials are still ongoing, all of the growers have reported them as being fully hardy. The canes are very productive, thorny and may tend to crawl during the first years. They will eventually stand erect. The fruit is generally ¾-1" long and the quality is very good to excellent. Our southernmost grower (on Long Island) reported they are "susceptible to wet weather fungus." I have not noticed that up here. Plant them 3-4' apart in good garden soil with lots of sun. They enjoy good air drainage but do not like desiccating winter wind. Stake if necessary. Cut out dead canes each year. Head back the plants during the summer to a manageable height (they will grow to be 6' or taller). **ME Grown.**



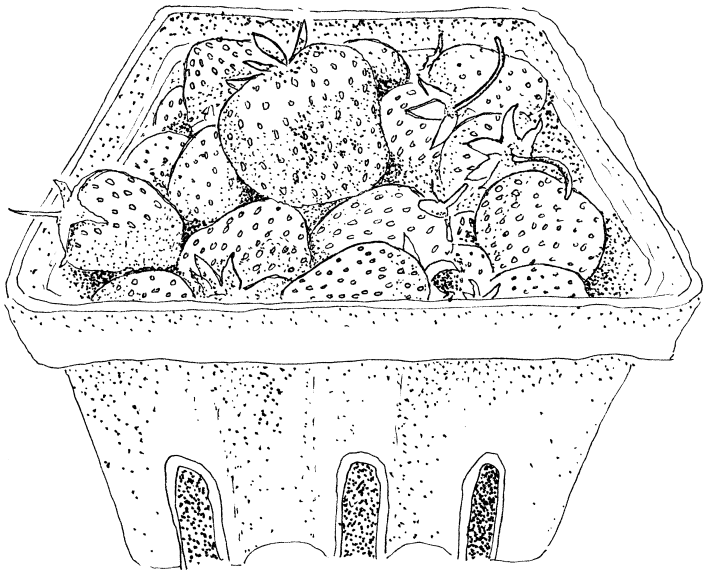
2750 Fort Kent King, bundle of 3, $15.00

Agri-gel A hydrogel formulation which absorbs and holds water. The swollen crystals adhere to plant roots, reducing transplant shock. Safe, non-toxic, easy to use. Useful for garden seedlings as well as woody plants. Highly recommended for raspberries and conifers. Half-ounce packet mixed with one to three gallons of water will treat up to 100 cane plants, or 50 trees and shrubs. ½ oz.

7510 Agri-gel, $2.00

Strawberries *Fragaria* x *ananassa* A major highlight of every summer is picking Sparkles. Is that not heaven? Although no one knows where the common name *strawberry* originated, idle speculation has it that it comes from the practice of putting straw down between the rows for pickers to sit on while they sample the fruit and catch up with each other. Technically not berries or fruits at all, strawberries are enlarged fleshy receptacles. The fruits are those tiny embedded "seeds" (they're not seeds, but achenes which have seeds in them). Modern strawberries, developed about 1830, are a hybrid of *F. chiloensis* (native of Chile) and *F. virginiana* (native of North America).

50 plants will plant from 50-100'. (virus-free bare-root stock)



Earliglow Early. MDUS 3861 [MDUS 2359 (Fairland x Midland)] x [MD2713 (Redglow x Surecrop)]. Maryland Ag Exp Stn, 1966. Medium-sized berries. Best for fresh eating and freezing. Excellent flavor for an early berry. Barbara Bowling called it the best flavored of all varieties in *The Berry Growers Companion*. Also *the* favorite of local strawberry grower Shaun Keenan. Incredibly, last July Earliglow even beat Sparkle in the Middlesex School alumni strawberry taste-off. Though I witnessed the event I was ineligible to participate. Resistant to red stele and verticillium wilt. Z3.

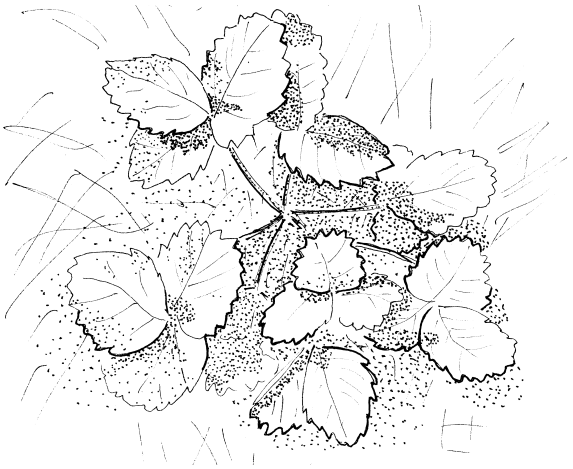
2770 Earliglow, bundle of 50, $11.00

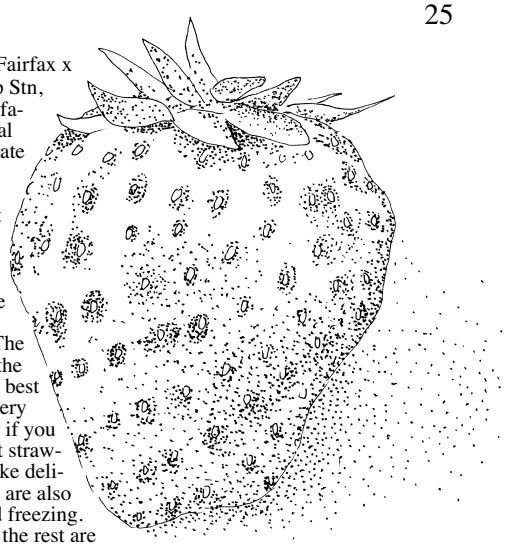
Jewel Mid-Late. NY 1324 [(Senga Sengana x NY E-58) x Holiday]. NY Station, 1985. Added to our list at the suggestion of Shaun Keenan at Sand Hill Farm in Somerville. Shaun even went so far as to say that Jewel tasted almost as good as Sparkle. Although I don't think I'd go quite that far, I was very impressed with the berry. Large bright red glossy perfectly shaped fruit is firm, sweet and slightly aromatic. Unlike Sparkle, Earliglow and many other varieties, it keeps its size all season. Extremely popular with commercial growers. Good freezing quality. Low incidence of fruit rots and foliar diseases. Not resistant to verticillium or red stele. Z4.

2780 Jewel, bundle of 50, $11.00

Northeaster Early. MdUS 4787 (MdUS 4380 x Holiday). USDA, 1996. Very large firm fruit with strong aromatic flavor is productive and hardy. Recent introduction that shows excellent promise throughout much of New England. Has even done well in our trials in Aroostook County. Ripens about the same time as Earliglow. Recommended both for homeowners and for large plantings. Resistant to soil diseases and tolerant to foliage disease. Very hardy. Z3.

2784 Northeaster, bundle of 50, $11.00



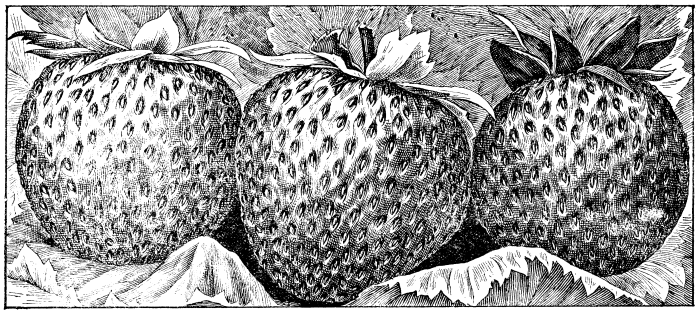


Sparkle Mid-Late. (Fairfax x Aberdeen) NJ Ag Exp Stn, 1942. Although not a favorite with commercial growers due to moderate crop size and smaller berries, I've yet to taste a strawberry that comes even remotely close to Sparkle. To me, they possess a flavor that can only be described as the essence of strawberry. The best in an early year, the best in a late year, the best this year, last year, every year. This is *the* berry if you want to eat the perfect strawberry. Soft berries make delicious fresh eating and are also excellent for jams and freezing. First fruit set is large; the rest are small. Resistant to most strains of red stele. Blooms late and is rarely affected by spring frost. Z3.

2790 Sparkle, bundle of 50, $11.00

Tristar EB 18 x MdUS 4258, USDA, MD, 1981. Everbearing "day-neutral" strawberry sets flower buds regardless of day length, fruiting all summer and into fall. Remove flower buds for the first six weeks after planting and you'll still get a crop the first year. Medium-sized firm deep-red berries of excellent quality and flavor. Resistant to red stele and verticillium wilt. Z4.

2802 Tristar, bundle of 50, $16.50



Strawberries

Keep cold or refrigerate between arrival and planting. Strawberries require good air drainage, well-drained fertile soil with pH of 5.8-6.2, thick mulch and full sun. Avoid soils where tomatoes, peppers or potatoes have grown in the past 4 years. Plant strawberries at the same depth as they were in the nursery, with the middle of the crown at soil level. Keep your patch free of weeds. They require 3/4-1" water per week during April, May, August, September and October. Mulch with hay or straw in late fall to protect plants over winter. In the spring, pull mulch off plants and place between rows where it will keep fruit dry and clean during the summer. It can also be raked back over the plants if frost threatens flower buds. Floating rowcover may also be used for winter and frost protection.

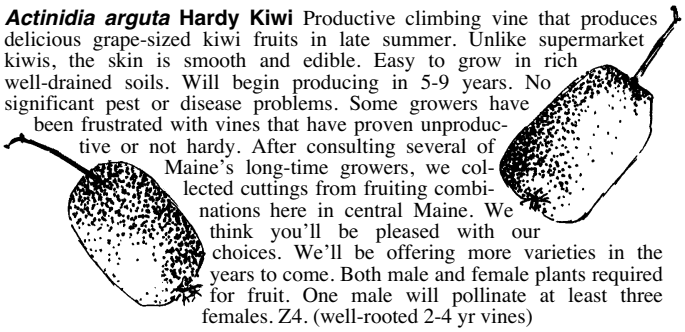
June-Bearing Strawberries

Matted Row system: Set plants 12-24" apart in rows 3' apart. Allow plants to produce runners freely and fill in the row. Remove all flowers the first year. Harvest berries the second summer. Immediately after harvest, fertilize liberally with compost or aged manure and renovate the row. By hand or with a tiller, narrow the row to 12" wide. Thin plants to 4-5" apart within the row. By this method a bed can last about 5 years. Then plow it under and start again.

Day-Neutral Strawberries (like Tristar) flower regardless of day length as long as temperatures are between 35 and 85°, and produce fruit from June to October. They are also uncommonly productive—about one pound of fruit per plant the first year, and slightly less the second year. Productivity peaks in August the first year. The second year, berry size decreases in the hottest weather and increases in cooler weather.

They are heavy feeders and benefit from 3-4" of manure worked 4-6" into the soil prior to planting, and monthly side-dressing of manure throughout the season. Plant 6-12" apart. Mulch with black plastic or thick straw immediately after planting. Remove flowers for the first six weeks, and remove all runners the first season. Mulch in late fall. Side-dress with manure monthly during the second season beginning in May. Till under after the second year and begin again.

More Edibles



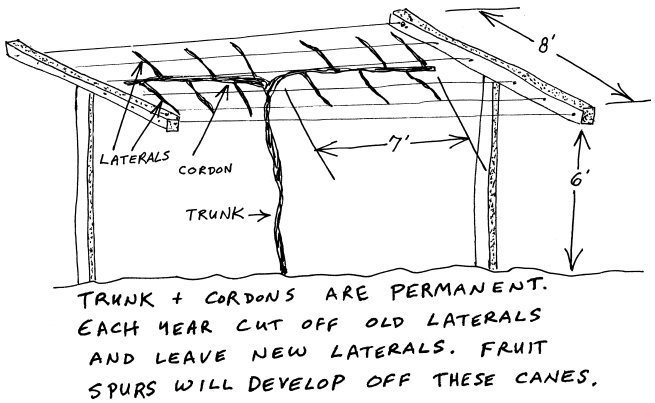
***Actinidia arguta* Hardy Kiwi** Productive climbing vine that produces delicious grape-sized kiwi fruits in late summer. Unlike supermarket kiwis, the skin is smooth and edible. Easy to grow in rich well-drained soils. Will begin producing in 5-9 years. No significant pest or disease problems. Some growers have been frustrated with vines that have proven unproductive or not hardy. After consulting several of Maine's long-time growers, we collected cuttings from fruiting combinations here in central Maine. We think you'll be pleased with our choices. We'll be offering more varieties in the years to come. Both male and female plants required for fruit. One male will pollinate at least three females. Z4. (well-rooted 2-4 yr vines)

***A. a.* Meader** (female) Summer. Elwin Meader introduction, Rochester, NH. Early ripening medium-sized sweet and flavorful fruit. In a recent letter, grower Will Bonsall commented that since the "exquisite flavor [is] conducive to depraved behavior, members of opposite sex should never eat fruits in the same room." Productive vine is hardy to -25°. Z4 maybe 3. **ME Grown.**

2827 Meader female, $12.00

***A. a.* Meader Male** Hardy male kiwi suitable for pollinating Meader female. One male will pollinate several females. The vines with their beautiful dark green ornamental foliage are often grown just for the show. **ME Grown.**

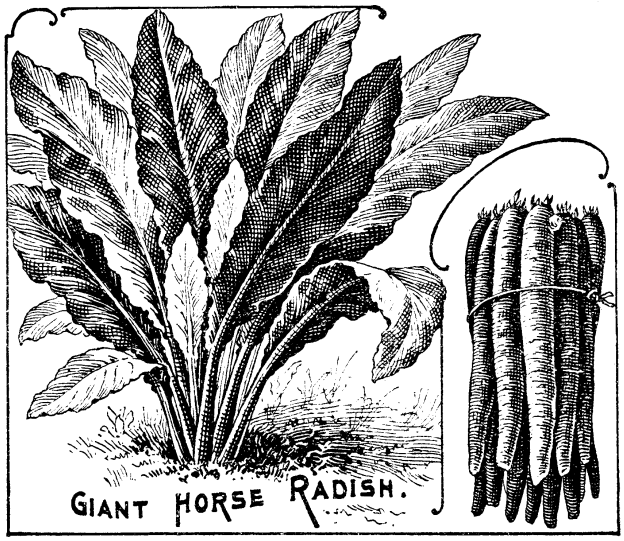
2834 Meader male, $12.00



Kiwis are dioecious vines, meaning you must plant a male plant to pollinate the fruiting female plants. They are also extremely vigorous and require a rugged trellis or arbor and heavy pruning. Plant vines 10' apart each way in moderately rich moist, but well-drained, soil (pH 5.0-6.5). Plant a male plant within 30' of any female to be pollinated. One male will pollinate several females. Although the plants are quite hardy, the flowers and foliage are frost sensitive. Planting with a northern exposure will delay budding-out in spring and reduce risk of frost damage. Protecting from winter winds and intense winter sun is also recommended. Mulch with hay or wood chips. On poor sites fertilize with compost annually.

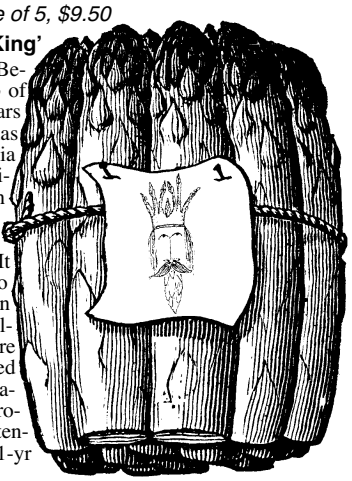
On a trellis: Train a single trunk to the trellis wires and then train two permanent 7-10' cordons (arms) off the trunk. Each winter remove at least 70% of old growth, leaving a dozen or so one-year-old laterals. That year's fruit will develop on fruit spurs growing off these one-year old canes (laterals). On extremely rampant vines summer pruning may be required to keep the vines from choking out your farm.

On an arbor or gazebo: Once established, prune 70% of the old growth each year and leave some new canes for this year's fruiting.



***Armoracia rusticana* 'Big Top' Horseradish** Exceptionally vigorous perennial with large dock-like leaves and spicy hot roots, savored for centuries for their culinary and medicinal qualities. 'Big Top' is a newer strain with disease resistance. Deep taproot with numerous shallow runner roots. Plant it where you want it because you may never get it all out. Even the tiniest root piece will produce a new plant. Prefers rich soil. Leaves can be cooked as greens. They say to harvest roots in the fall, but you can dig them anytime. Plant with the slanted cut down and the flat side up. Native to northern Europe. Z3. (#1 roots)

2860 Horseradish, bundle of 5, $9.50



***Asparagus officinalis* 'Jersey King' Asparagus** Early. Rutgers U. Because wages account for about 70% of the cost of producing the tasty spears for market, asparagus production has gone global. Even though California asparagus growers pay workers minimum wage, they can't compete with overseas producers. As with many other crops, domestic asparagus may become a thing of the past. It may not be long before you *have* to grow your own if you want it grown in the USA. Jersey King is an all-male hybrid which is 2-3 times more productive than the open-pollinated types. Excellent tolerance to asparagus rust and fusarium crown rot. Produces high yields of large-diameter tender spears. Z4. (large-rooted 1-yr crowns)

2870 Asparagus Jersey King, bundle of 25, $12.00
2871 Asparagus Jersey King, bundle of 50, $19.00

***A. o.* 'Purple Passion' Asparagus** Early. Developed from the old Italian heirloom *Violetto di Albenga*. Brian Benson introduction. Very large deep purple stalk with a creamy white interior. Sweeter and less stringy than its green counterparts, meaning you can use more of the spear. Tender enough to eat raw in salads. Turns green when cooked. (large-rooted 1-yr crowns)

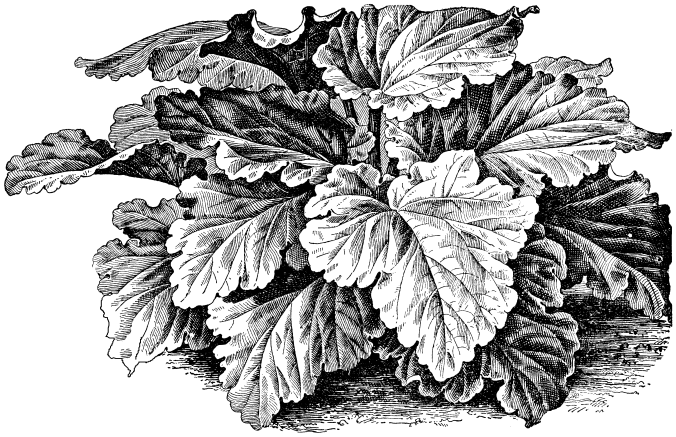
2875 Purple Passion, bundle of 25, $12.00

Asparagus requires fertile soil with pH 6.8-7.2 and high levels of phosphorous. It doesn't like weeds. Plant when you receive your order or as soon as the ground can be worked. Plant 14-18" apart, 6-10" deep, in trenches 4' apart. Or dig your trenches somewhat deeper and fill the bottom with 4" of compost and rotted manure. Lay plants with crown up and cover with 2" of soil. Plants emerge very slowly. As young shoots grow, add soil gradually just covering the shoots until the trench is full. In late fall, remove dead stalks and mulch with 3" of manure.

Second summer: Add lime as needed and dig in rock fertilizers and nitrogen fertilizer as needed. Control weeds but do not injure crowns.

Later years: Same routine but increase fertilizer. Be sure to leave some spears each year to grow stalks that will support the roots and give you more spears next year. Keep the bed weed free and mulched heavily.

New research shows that asparagus can be selectively harvested for 2 weeks during the second growing season, for 4 weeks in the third, and a full season thereafter. We recommend caution in harvesting any but the largest shoots from vigorous plants before the third or fourth season as the young plants need to establish themselves.



***Rheum rhabarbarum* 'MacDonald' Rhubarb** MacDonald College, Quebec. A perennial herb of the buckwheat family whose clumps of juicy acid leaf stalks have been a northern food staple every spring for thousands of years. Most famous these days for pies and wine, but also great for sauce, breads and juice. MacDonald has extremely vigorous productive upright large tender stalks, deep red inside and out. Leaves not edible. Native to Russia. Z3. (#1 crowns)

2880 MacDonald Rhubarb, bundle of 2, $8.50

Rhubarb

Plant the top of the root division level with the surface in well-prepared well-drained rich slightly acid soil (pH 5.5-6.5) and a bushel of well-rotted manure or compost under each crown. When plants are established, fertilize liberally with manure and balanced garden fertilizer or compost every spring, as it's a heavy feeder. Harvest for four weeks two years after planting. Thereafter you can harvest for 8-10 weeks each year. Never remove more than 2/3 of the stalks from a plant.

Every ten years or so, divide plants in early spring, leaving about 1/3 of the crown in place. Cut up the remainder into fist-sized pieces and replant.

***Vaccinium macrocarpon* American Cranberry** This is the cranberry of delicious holiday sauces, bread and jelly. Dense low 2-12" lustrous evergreen ground cover, reddish purple in fall and loaded with 1/2" light yellow to orange to reddish-maroon berries that color more after harvest. Makes a beautiful and edible "lawn." Handpick or rake like blueberries before hard frost. Use fresh or freeze, or store in a cool basement or root cellar for months. Berries a well-known cystitis remedy. Requires acidic soil, native to northeastern U.S. and Canada. 10 plants will fill a 5x5' bed. Z2. **ME Grown.** (well-rooted plants with 3-4 runners)

2890 American Cranberry, bundle of 10, $16.00

American Cranberries are shallow-rooted and require light acid soil (pH 4.0-5.5), preferably cool, moist and high in organic matter, similar to soils in which blueberries grow well. Will grow in dry locations though often flooded for frost protection and convenience in commercial operations. Flooding not necessary in home plots. Plant them in spring once the ground can be worked. They do well in a bed or in a naturalized setting. Instructions are for a 5 x 5' bed (10 plants).

For acidic "blueberry" soils: If you're fortunate to have a site where blueberries grow naturally, clear a spot of vegetation, cultivate the soil, add some peat and sand if you like, and you're ready to plant.

Sandy soils: Remove soil 10" deep and mix soil with 2 bales of damp peat moss. To acidify the soil, also mix in 1/4 lb sulfur. Replace mixture in bed and cover with 2" of sand.

Clay or silty soils: Remove soil 10" deep and place it around the edge of the bed as a berm. Replace the soil with 8" of moist peat moss (about 2 bales). Add 2" of sand and mix it slightly with the peat. To acidify the soil, also mix in 1/4 lb sulfur. Cover with an additional 2" of sand.

Plant cranberries 12" apart, so the roots are into the peat and the sand is covering the lower portion of the stems.

Remove all weeds as needed. Water the plants weekly so that the peat is moist but not saturated. Add nitrogen at a rate of 1/3-1 lb (or 20-50 pounds of manure) per 100 sq feet each year. No pesticides should be necessary.

Handpick berries before first hard frost when the berries are red.

In late fall cover the bed to protect the plants from the drying effect of winter winds. Use a mulch of leaves or pine needles; or cover with polyester row cover and then clear plastic; or cover with row cover and then plenty of leaves. If you use row cover or plastic, you may want to bait for mice under the plastic.

Remove mulch in early April. Protect flower buds from 28° frosts by covering with plastic during frosty nights.

Every two years partially cover the plants with a 1/2-1" layer of sand in spring before growth begins. This will help produce more berries and keep weeds down.

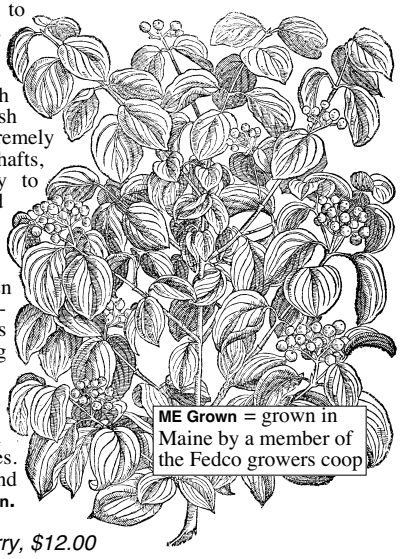
Fruiting Shrubs and Trees

These additional fruit-bearing trees and shrubs make beautiful hedges, attract birds and other wildlife, and many produce quite edible fruit as well. **Plant more than one of a kind to ensure pollination** for fruit production.

***Amelanchier alnifolia 'Regent'* Juneberry** 4-6' Also called **Western Serviceberry**, **Saskatoon** or **Shadbush**. J Candrian introduction, Regent, ND. Compact shrub form with fragrant white flowers in early spring and large 1/3"-1/2" blueberry-like sweet purplish berries in July. Sweeter than blueberries. Berries are good in pies or jams, fresh or dried. Used by native peoples in western prairies to make pemmican. Also popular with wildlife. Nice red-orange fall color. Regent was selected for excellent foliage and berry production. Generally considered the best ornamental cultivar. Prefers slightly acid soil, pH 5-7. Thrives as well along stream beds as it does on rocky slopes. Tolerates partial shade, salt, pollution and wet spots but not standing water. Needs sweating before planting to break dormancy; see page 5 for instructions. May get leaf diseases in warmer humid areas. Native to northwestern North America. Z2. (12-18" transplants)

2930 Regent Juneberry, $11.00

***Cornus mas* Cornelian Cherry** 20-25' Large multistemmed shrub with oval to rounded form, or a small tree if you prune lower branches. Covered with small bright yellow flower clusters for 3 weeks in early spring, even before forsythia. Attractive long ovate leaves are shiny rich green. Bears profusions of dark red almost black 1/2-1" oblong cherry-like fruit from mid-late summer into fall; one tree can produce 30-70 lbs. a year. Fruit is variable but can be sweet, tart and tasty, and is traditionally used fresh, dried, pickled, in tarts, jellies, syrups and drinks. Best for fresh eating when dark red, soft and beginning to shrivel. Fruits have twice as much vitamin C as oranges; folkloric use for skin disorders, joint pains and stomach upset. Flaky, exfoliating greyish to orange-brown bark. Extremely tough wood suitable for shafts, spokes and even bolts. Easy to grow, pest- and fungus-free and very long lived. Excellent as a hedge or specimen. Prefers well-drained soils but adapts to most soils, city conditions, even shade. Drought tolerant. Resistant to deer browsing. Fruit buds tend to escape early spring frosts although they can be injured in colder areas. Pest problems negligible. Self-pollinating, though pollination may improve with more trees. Native to eastern Europe and western Asia. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (30-48" transplants)



ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

3000 Cornelian Cherry, $12.00

***Humulus lupulus* Common Hop** Late summer. Up to 20-30' Not only for brewmeisters, although it has been used for brewing for over 1000 years. Beautiful twining vine dies back to the ground in fall and still covers a trellis or archway next growing season with green lobed leaves, bristly stems, insignificant greenish flowers, and the hops themselves: papery aromatic cone-like strobiles that are used in brewing and insomnia remedies. Europeans cook and eat young shoots like asparagus. For brewing, there are basically two types of hops. Aroma hops have lower alpha acids and are used as a finishing or conditioning hop. Bitter hops have higher alpha acids and are used to extract bitterness. Tolerates shade, adapted to most well-drained soils. Plant it where you want it because you may never get rid of it. No serious pests or diseases. Native to Eurasia. Z3. (5-6" female rhizomes)

Cascade Hops USDA 19124 (Fuggle x Serebrianka-Fuggle S) x open pollinated. Oregon St U, 1972. Fragrantly aromatic, low bittering value. "While it's true that Budweiser waves a frond of this variety over their vats of 'sparkling, fermented rice and corn beverage' Cascade has gained impeccable renown as *the* charismatic hop in such unsurpassable ales as Anchor's 'Liberty Ale', Sierra Nevada's 'Pale Ale' and McNeill's 'Firehouse Amber Ale'. Nothing 'light' about these." These came from a customer whose name I lost. Thanks for your comments! Resistant to downy mildew.

3030 Cascade Hops, 3 crowns, $9.50

Willamette Hops USDA 21003 x Fuggle Seedling 2-4, USDA, 1976. Excellent all-purpose hop. Old English-style aroma with brewing characteristics similar to Fuggle. Low bittering. Mild aroma. Good finishing hop for brewing English ales and stout. Vigorous. Higher yielding than Fuggle. Ripens midseason (late summer) and has good disease resistance.

3034 Willamette Hops, 3 crowns, $9.50

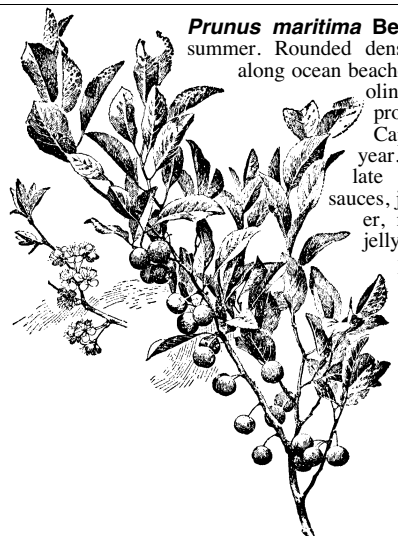
Hops

Refrigerate slightly moistened rhizomes in a plastic bag until planting. Hops prefer full sun and light-textured rich well-drained soil, with a pH of 6.5-8.0. As soon as soil can be worked in spring, till to create a weed-free area. Dig holes about one foot deep and at least three feet apart in rows. Add manure, compost and other slow-release organic fertilizers. Plant 2 rhizomes per hole, horizontally with the buds pointed up and cover with 1-2" of loose soil. The first year the hop plant requires frequent light watering and mulching.

Hops grow vertically, with lateral sidearms extending from the main vine and producing cones. Vines may grow up to 25' in a single season, and do best if they are trained onto strong twine 12-30' high, supported by a trellis, wire, pole, tree branch or south-facing building. When the young vines are about 1' long, select 2 or 3 most vigorous vines per hill and remove the rest. Gently wrap the vines clockwise onto a string. Once trained, the vine will guide itself.

Pick the hops when they are papery, but still slightly sticky, and filled with yellow powder. Harvest dates will vary with the variety and climate. Because most hops are produced out of reach from the ground, it is safest to lower the vines in order to pick the hops.

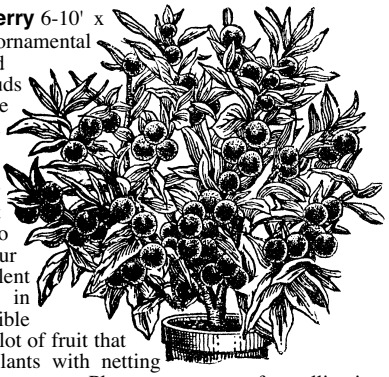
Cut the vines back to the ground after they have been killed by frost. Each spring apply a hearty dose of manure and compost as a top dressing. To help control hops' vigor, prune roots by cutting a 2-3' circle with a shovel around the base of the plant in spring.



***Prunus maritima* Beach Plum** 6 x 5-6' Late summer. Rounded dense suckering shrub found along ocean beaches, New Brunswick to Carolinas. It's hard to miss the profusion of white flowers on Cape Cod in May of a good year. Purplish-red 1/2-1" fruit in late summer. Excellent jams, sauces, jellies. If you're a meat eater, nothing beats beach plum jelly with lamb. Does well in poor and sandy or heavy well-drained soils. Productive, reliable, salt tolerant. Plant about 6' apart, at least 2 for pollination. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

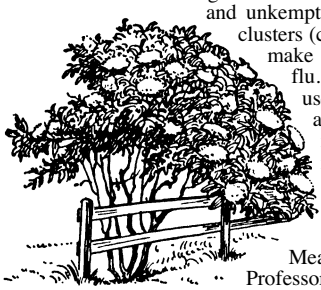
3082 Beach Plum, $8.50

***P. tomentosa* Nanking Cherry** 6-10' x same. Broad dense highly ornamental shrub, becoming open and attractively irregular. Pink buds open to masses of fragrant white 3/4" flowers. Deeply veined light green foliage with very fine fuzz (tomentosa) lining each vein underneath. Very tasty but variable tart scarlet 1/2" fruit for pies and jams. Two or three berries will provide your Vitamin C for the day. Excellent hedge plant; prefers full sun in well-drained soil. This is an edible landscape crop that produces a lot of fruit that actually *is* edible! Covering plants with netting will deter birds from robbing your crop. Plant two or more for pollination. Native to China and Japan. Z2. (12-18" transplants)

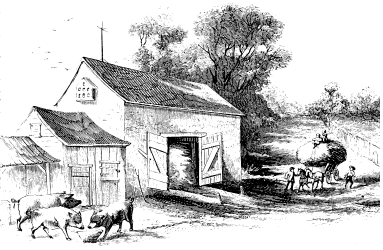


3100 Nanking Cherry, $9.00

***Sambucus canadensis* Elderberry, Sweet** or **Black-Berried Elder** 6-12' x same. Broad vigorous multistemmed shrub with spreading branches and unkempt habit. Large flat creamy-white flower clusters (cymes) in early summer cover the shrub, make delicious fritters or a tea for colds and flu. Purple-black berries in late summer used in jelly or pie, famous for wine and attract many species of birds, beneficial insects, and other wildlife. Best grown in moist rich soil. Free from diseases and insects. Two varieties needed for pollination. Native to eastern U.S.



Goodbarn Chance seedling. Elwin Meader introduction, Rochester, NH. Professor Meader named this 'Goodbarn' because it was the good elderberry growing under the eaves of his barn in New Hampshire. Another of the many fine plants that Elwin's son John has brought to my attention over the years. Thanks John! Good Barn is thought to be a polyploid form of *S. c.* with unusual hardiness, vigor and apparent self-fertility. It blooms heavily and produces large crops annually. What it lacks in commercial fruit size it makes up for with its impressive productivity. Excellent for juices, jellies and wines. Z3. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

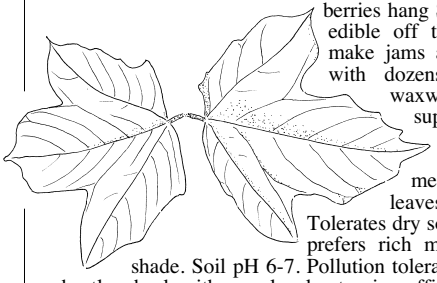


3135 Goodbarn, $9.00

York Adams No. 2 x Ezyoff. NY Stn, 1964. Considered the largest-fruited and heaviest-bearing cultivar. Heavy clusters. Bright green foliage on a large rounded shrub. Z3. (1 yr #1)

3140 York, $9.00

***Viburnum trilobum* Highbush Cranberry** 8-12' Also known as **Crampbark**. Multistemmed shrub, good for screens and hedges, has clusters of white flowers in May. Pendulous clusters of brilliant red-orange berries hang September-February and are still edible off the bush in midwinter. Berries make jams and preserves, also are popular with dozens of bird species, especially waxwings. Flowers help attract and support beneficial insects. Bark used as anti-spasmodic; tea especially good for relieving menstrual cramping. Maple-like leaves tinged red in the spring. Tolerates dry soils if high in organic matter, but prefers rich moist well-drained soils, sun or shade. Soil pH 6-7. Pollution tolerant. Susceptible to viburnum leaf beetle; check with your local extension office or nursery to determine if this could be a problem. Not a bog cranberry (see #**2890**). Native from Canada to NY. Self-pollinating. Z2.



Phillips Selected by Elwin Meader from plants found in W Acton, ME. Berries do not emit offensive musky odor when heated. Red-veined red-tinged leaves. Jells without additional pectin. If you're hoping to eat the fruit, Phillips is superior in flavor. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

3240 Phillips, $12.00

Wentworth Original plants selected for edibility and large fruit size in the early l900s from a collection of 3000 viburnums. Bright lime-green leaves. Red fall foliage. **ME Grown.** (6-18" heavy transplants)

3245 Wentworth, $8.00

Conifers transplanted once in the nursery have a much higher success rate. These conifers are mostly three- to four-year-old transplants. 2-2TR means the plant is 4 years old: 2 years as a seedling and 2 years as a transplant. P+2 means one year as a plug and 2 years as a transplant.

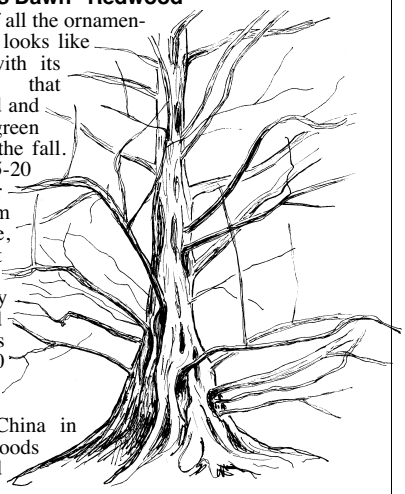
***Abies balsamea* Balsam Fir** 45-75' Often considered the "only real Christmas tree." Fragrant needles, a favorite for wreaths, pillows and potpourri. Small blisters (which are fun to "pop" at other people) on younger trees contain a transparent aromatic resin that native peoples used as an inhalant for headaches and congestion, and as a poultice for burns, cuts and arthritis. Narrow, conical, smooth-barked. Prefers well-drained moist acid soils. Avoid polluted areas. Semi-shade tolerant, slow-growing. Good specimen tree and songbird nesting area, and a favorite browse of moose and deer. The most abundant conifer in Maine, "country of the pointed firs." Native Labrador to PA. Z3. (3-2TR 6-12")

3270 Balsam Fir, bundle of 5, $13.00

***Larix laricina* American Larch** 40-80' x 15-30' Usually called **Tamarack**, **Hackmatack** or just Hack in Maine. Called "The Larch" on Monty Python. Pyramidal deciduous conifer with grey-green foliage that turns soft golden orange before dropping in the fall. First-winter "flat-landers" might think their Hack trees are dead, but they'll green up come spring. Beautiful as a specimen or in a stand. Strongly horizontal branching habit. Incredibly tough wood used for barn floors and other punishing applications. Not a finish wood. It'll twist and check but the cows don't care. Prefers moist acidic soils and cold climates. Extremely hardy, fast growing. Native from the Arctic circle south to northern Pennsylvania. Not recommended in warmer areas. Z1. **ME Grown.** (12-16" tranplants)

3325 American Larch, $6.00

***Metasequoia glyptostroboides* Dawn Redwood**



100' One of the most spectacular of all the ornamental trees. The wide irregular trunk looks like something out of a fairy tale with its iridescent golden-orange bark that becomes deeply grooved, hollowed and fluted with age. The bright green deciduous needles turn orange in the fall. Grows quickly, up to 50' in 15-20 years, with many small-diameter horizontal branches and a uniform conical habit. Highly adaptable, easy to transplant. Prefers moist deep well-drained slightly acid soil in full sun. Will tolerate wet or dry sites. Pollution resistant; good specimen or street tree, rarely needs pruning. Fossils dating back 50 million years have been found in Japan. Thought to be extinct until it was rediscovered in central China in 1941. Resembles California redwoods only vaguely. Native of China and Japan. Z4. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

3350 Dawn Redwood, $12.00

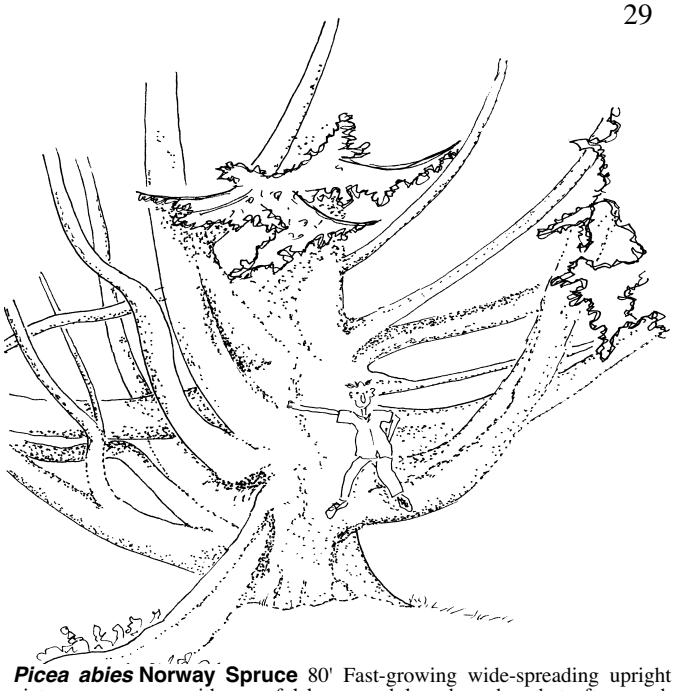
Conifers tolerate a wide range of soil conditions, but prefer a pH between 5.5-6.5. If you are planting in dry or well-drained areas, dip tree roots in Agri-gel solution before planting to protect roots from drying out. Do not use Agri-gel in heavy clay soils or wet areas. Do not soak conifers overnight; a good dipping is sufficient.

Before planting, prune off 1/3 of the roots. Dig a small hole or make an incision with a spade or planting bar and slip the tree in to the level it grew in the nursery. Fan the roots out; do not wind them around in the hole. It is much better to prune the roots than to crowd them in the hole. Water well and pack the earth down with your feet to remove air pockets. Young conifers need 3/4-1" of rain per week. Periodic deep waterings are far more beneficial than frequent sprinklings. No fertilization is necessary in the first year. In later years you may fertilize around the drip line.

To make evergreens dense and compact, remove leader and center bud on the end of each side branch.

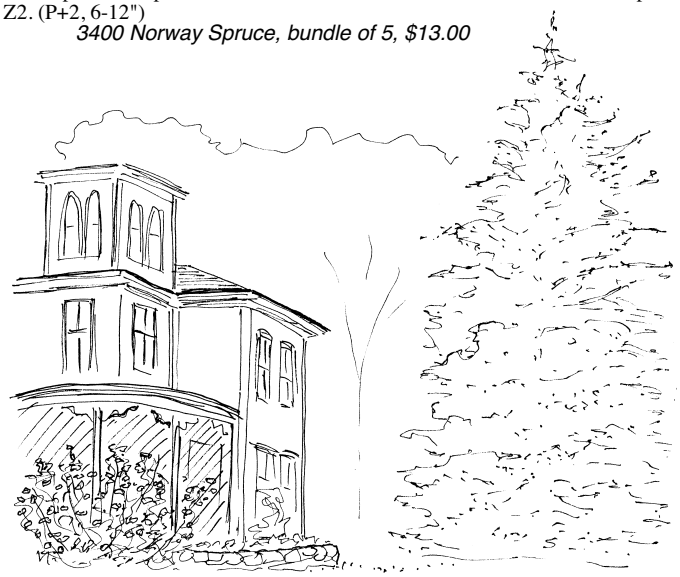
Agri-gel A hydrogel formulation which absorbs and holds water. The swollen crystals adhere to plant roots, reducing transplant shock. Safe, non-toxic, easy to use. Useful for garden seedlings as well as woody plants. Highly recommended for raspberries and conifers. Half-ounce packet mixed with one to three gallons of water will treat up to 100 cane plants, or 50 trees and shrubs. 1/2 oz.

7510 Agri-gel, $2.00



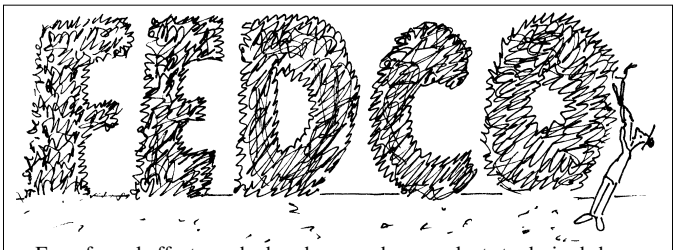
***Picea abies* Norway Spruce** 80' Fast-growing wide-spreading upright picturesque spruce with graceful long pendulous branches that often reach the ground. If you go to the Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA, don't miss the ancient Norway Spruce just inside the front gate. Several of its massive drooping branches have themselves turned into secondary trunks. It is truly amazing. Orange-brown scaly bark. Showy (marketable!) 4-6" cones, largest of the spruce. Bright green foliage. Prefers loam but does better than other spruces on poorer soils. Excellent lumber. Native to northern Europe. Z2. (P+2, 6-12")

3400 Norway Spruce, bundle of 5, $13.00

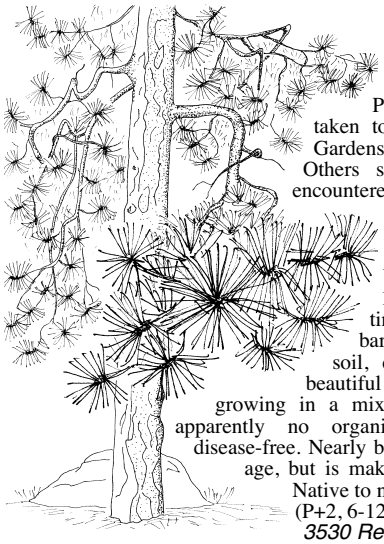


***P. pungens glauca* 'Majestic' Colorado Blue Spruce** 30-60' Very popular specimen tree with truer blue foliage than other cultivars. Can be used as a screen; fast growing after 3'. Does not like wet soil. Extra spring nitrogen will improve blue color, which doesn't appear for first few years. Native to western U.S. Z2. (2-2TR 6-12")

3420 Colorado Blue Spruce, bundle of 5, $13.00



For a formal effect, use hedge shears and prune plants to desired shape.



Pinus resinosa **Red Pine** 50-80' Also known as **Norway Pine**. Probably called *Norway* Pine because the first specimens taken to England and planted in Kew Gardens were from Norway, Maine. Others speculate that Europeans first encountered this native tree in what became Norway, Maine. Perhaps both are true. Broad irregular or rounded crown of spreading branches. Long soft 3-8" needles. 1½-2½" egg-shaped cones. Distinctive pinkish-silver scaly plated bark. Fast growing; thrives in poor soil, even sand. Some of the most beautiful specimens in central Maine are growing in a mixture of sand and gravel with apparently no organic matter at all. Relatively disease-free. Nearly became extinct during the last ice age, but is making a comeback. You can help! Native to northeastern U.S. and Canada. Z3. (P+2, 6-12")

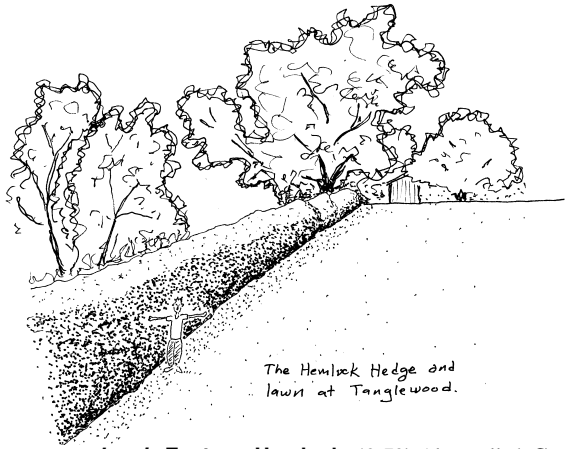
3530 Red Pine, bundle of 5, $13.00

P. strobus **Eastern White Pine** 100'+ The largest northeastern conifer. Magnificent and massive when mature. 200 years ago the white pines here in Palermo were typically 200' tall. You could stand a team of oxen on a stump! The current Maine champion, 132' tall, grows in Morrill and measures 6'9" in diameter. 2-5" blue-green needles and 3-10" cones. Smooth greyish-green bark becomes thick, rough and deeply furrowed with age. Medicinal teas are made from needles. The resin has numerous practical and medicinal uses. Excellent wood with a thousand uses. Planted thick and sheared, it makes a beautiful hedge which will not drop its lower branches with maturity. Grows fast and transplants well. Likes ordinary to poor—even sandy—soil. Shade tolerant, but does not like salt or roadsides. Do not plant within 300' of currants or gooseberries. Maine's state tree and Fedco Trees' logo. Native to eastern U.S. (P+2, 9-18")

3540 Eastern White Pine, bundle of 5, $13.00

Thuja occidentalis **Arborvitae** 20-60' Arborvitae means tree of life. Also called **Eastern White Cedar**. Narrow and tall with twiggy branches, soft orange-brown bark, and flat foliage unlike that of any other conifer. Foliage and bark tea high in vitamin C. Foliage tea helpful in infections, twig decoction makes an anti-viral anti-fungal skin wash. Valuable light fragrant wood, the standard for fence posts and log cabins in Maine. Slow-growing, lives up to 400 years. Thrives in rich moist marshy neutral-to-alkaline soils. Good for screens and hedges. Probably the first North American tree brought to Europe. Next time you're on Mount Desert, check out Thuja Gardens: beautiful cedars surrounding even more beautiful flower gardens. While you're there, visit Asticou Azalea Gardens, just down the road. Z2. (3-2TR 9-18")

3590 American Arborvitae, bundle of 5, $13.00



Tsuga canadensis **Eastern Hemlock** 40-70' Also called **Canadian Hemlock**. One of the most beautiful conifers; graceful pyramid shape and feathery short needles. The leaves were traditionally used in teas, the branches in brooms. Groves were held sacred by native peoples. Today, hemlock lumber is a common construction wood. Valuable for bird forage and wildlife cover. Makes an excellent hedge when planted 3-4' apart. Be sure to notice the magnificent hemlock hedge surrounding the grounds if you ever visit the Tanglewood Music Center in the Berkshires. While you're there, take an hour to stroll about and look at all the trees; it's quite an arboretum. Prefers moist cool locations, but will tolerate rocky sandy acid conditions; can thrive even in considerable shade. Does not tolerate drought, salt or air pollution. Z3. (3-2TR 9-18")

3620 Eastern Hemlock, bundle of 5, $13.00

Nut Trees

Other than hazelnuts, nut trees should be planted 50' apart for nut production, 20' apart for lumber. **At least two trees of each species are required for pollination**.

Castanea dentata **American Chestnut** Up to 100' Once again we're offering seedlings of pure American Chestnuts, from seeds collected in Maine by the Maine chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation. Before 1900, American Chestnut was the predominant and most important deciduous tree in the eastern U.S. The arrow-straight rot-resistant wood was used for everything from mine timbers to musical instruments. Heavy annual crops of delicious sweet nuts were an important food for wildlife and humans. When cut down, the trees quickly grew back from the stump. The Asian fungus *Cryphonetria parasitica* (chestnut blight, formerly named *Endothia parasitica*) was discovered in Brooklyn in 1904, and within 50 years it had killed virtually every chestnut tree in the eastern U.S. Recently I read an article suggesting a connection between the demise of the passenger pigeon and that of the chestnut: apparently they had a symbiotic relationship. The blight does not kill the roots however, and rare isolated stands of mature trees can still be found. The trees we're offering are blight-susceptible, but will probably thrive if there is no active blight infection within a mile. Mine are now 20' tall and look fantastic. Fast-growing and straight-trunked with a wide-branching magnificent rounded crown. Ribbed sharp-toothed dark lustrous green foliage. Yellow fall color. Fragrant white blooms in July. Prefers well-drained acid soil. Two or more needed for pollination, but will cross-pollinate with Asian and European chestnuts. Precocious, bearing heavy crops of nuts in 10 years. From each American Chestnut purchase, Fedco will donate $4 to support the work of the American Chestnut Foundation. Z4. **ME Grown.** (32-48" transplants)

3760 American Chestnut, $16.50

C. mollissima **Chinese Chestnut** 40-60' x same. Low-branching broadly rounded open form with large long narrow sharp-toothed shiny green leaves. Humorous catkins look like green fireworks sprouting from the branch tips. Although variable because they are seedlings, they usually produce good-to-excellent nuts 5-7 years after planting. Of the same genus as the beloved American Chestnut (*C. dentata* above), but a quite different tree. Immune or at least highly resistant to the dreaded chestnut blight and used in breeding work to develop a blight-immune American Chestnut. Yellow fall color. Grooved grey bark. Prefers acid well-drained loamy soils. Should be spaced 40' apart. Native to eastern Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.** (32-48" transplants)

3764 Chinese Chestnut, $10.50

Corylus americana **American Hazelnut** or **American Filbert** 15-18' x 10-15' Suckering multistemmed rounded shrub or small tree with very good ½" nuts. Somewhat smaller but much hardier than the various foreign hybrids: hazelberts and filazels. Not our local wild Beaked Filbert, which is smaller and prickly to handle. Squirrels and bluejays will begin stealing the nuts as soon as they're ripe, so pay attention and collect the crop as soon as the husks begin to turn brown and lose their sticky yellowness. In central Maine that's around the third week of September. Cure nuts in their husks for a couple of weeks and then shell them. You can even stomp off the dry shells in a big tub as if you were juicing grapes. Showy catkins in spring and dark green serrated foliage. Prefers well-drained soils, but is pH adaptable. Full sun or light shade. Annually cutting out some suckers will keep your stand from becoming too shrubby. Highly resistant or immune to filbert blight. Native to eastern North America. Plant 8' apart. Z4. **ME Grown.** (20-36" transplants)

3785 American Hazelnut, $11.00

Corylus x hybrid **Precocious Hazelbert** 12' x 12' This hybrid hazelbert (or hazelnut) was developed by Oikos Tree Crops in Michigan from selected filazels and hazelberts. It includes both American and European parentage. Fedco grower Anne Hallee received Precocious nuts from Oikos and has been growing them out. Vigorous shrubby suckering plant takes 3-4 years to bear. Medium-sized nut. Plant about 2' apart to create a hedge and ensure good pollination. Good resistance to filbert blight. Z4. **ME Grown.** (10-16" transplants)

3799 Precocious Hazelbert, $11.00

Juglans nigra **Black Walnut** 70-90' Magnificent open rounded crown of massive limbs with dark green leaves. Highly valued cabinet and veneer wood. Thick-shelled edible nuts have an intense distinctive flavor. Their husks yield a rich brown dye. Husks, leaves and roots are all anti-fungal. Deep taproot. Prefers moist, well-drained soils, pH 6-7. Roots give off a compound, juglone, which inhibits competing plants, so don't plant one too close to your garden. Anne Hallee grew this year's crop from seeds collected in Belfast. Native to eastern U.S. though not quite into Maine. Z4. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

3815 Black Walnut, $10.00

Fedco Trees 2006

PO Box 520 Waterville ME 04903
fax 207-872-8317

from mailing label CC-_____

Deliver to:

Farm or Group Name _____

Name _____

US Mail _____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

UPS (include your road name)_____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

phone _____

✓ Check this box if you will *not* accept substitutions ❑

Delivery Options ✓ choose one:

❑ **Ship** in mid-April. Our last shipment is April 17.

❑ **Pickup** at Tree Sale in Clinton. Pay no shipping.

❑ **Ship** around May 4. (Add $15 fee to shipping charges.)

Catalogs and additional order sheets may be downloaded at our website: **www.fedcoseeds.com**
New this year: on-line ordering!

Volume Discounts
(only orders received by 12/9/05)
Subtotal over $200 take 10%
over $400 take 15%

Shipping Charges: (we ship by UPS or Priority Mail, our choice)

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
New England	$7.00	over $70.00, pay 10% of adjusted total
NY, NJ, & PA	$9.00	over $90.00, pay 10% of adjusted total
All other states	$14.00	over $140.00, pay 10% of adjusted total

Orders to **Alaska** go Priority Mail; be sure we have a *Postal Address*

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
Priority Mail	$14.00	over $70.00, pay 20% of adjusted total

Subtotal from reverse		
Volume Discount	–	
Adjusted Total	=	
ME residents & pickups add 5% **Tax**	+	
Shipping	+	Did you remember the box charge?
Add **$2** if you fax your order	+	
Grand Total	=	

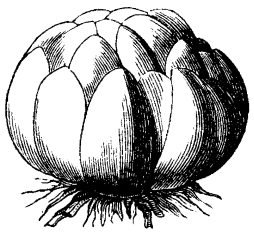
Make checks payable to **Fedco**

Final order deadline March 3, 2006

Shipping Charge		
+ Box charge	+	**$5.00**
Shipping	=	

❑ Donate all my refund to MOFGA
❑ up to $5.00
❑ up to $2.00

We accept Visa or MasterCard Exp. Date



- **Complete ordering information on page 3.**
- Please fill out the address information and totals blocks above. We *must* have a road name for UPS delivery.
- For early delivery of rootstock or for scionwood, send a SASE for the order form or download it from our website.
- If you want Priority Mail delivery, minimum shipping charge is $14 or 20% for orders with an adjusted total over $70.
- We will add a $10 handling fee if you ask us to make adjustments after we have received your order.
- We ship between April 5 and April 17; we will add a $15 handling fee if you specify a shipping date within this period or if you specify shipment around May 4.
- Consider donating your refund to the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association (MOFGA) Permanent Site Fund.

Fedco Trees 2006: Trees, Shrubs & Plants

	Item #	Number of pkgs.	Number of plants	Description	Price per package	Total Price
1						
2						
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5						
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If you are ordering more than 24 items, you may copy this page or our format and submit as many pages as you need.

Subtotal
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Suggestions:

Fedco Trees 2006

PO Box 520 Waterville ME 04903
fax 207-872-8317

from mailing label CC-_____

Deliver to:

Farm or Group Name _____

Name _____

US Mail _____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

UPS (include your road name)_____

Town _____ St _____ Zip _____

phone _____

✓ Check this box if you will *not* accept substitutions ❑

Delivery Options ✓ choose one:

❑ **Ship** in mid-April. Our last shipment is April 17.

❑ **Pickup** at Tree Sale in Clinton. Pay no shipping.

❑ **Ship** around May 4. (Add $15 fee to shipping charges.)

Catalogs and additional order sheets may be downloaded at our website: **www.fedcoseeds.com**
New this year: on-line ordering!

Volume Discounts
(only orders received by 12/9/05)
Subtotal over $200 take 10%
over $400 take 15%

Shipping Charges: (we ship by UPS or Priority Mail, our choice)

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
New England	$7.00	over $70.00, pay 10% of adjusted total
NY, NJ, & PA	$9.00	over $90.00, pay 10% of adjusted total
All other states	$14.00	over $140.00, pay 10% of adjusted total

Orders to **Alaska** go Priority Mail; be sure we have a *Postal Address*

	minimum	if your **Adjusted Total** is
Priority Mail	$14.00	over $70.00, pay 20% of adjusted total

Subtotal from reverse		
Volume Discount	–	
Adjusted Total	=	
ME residents & pickups add 5% **Tax**	+	
Shipping	+	Did you remember the box charge?
Add **$2** if you fax your order	+	
Grand Total	=	

Make checks payable to **Fedco**

Final order deadline March 3, 2006

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❑ Donate all my refund to MOFGA
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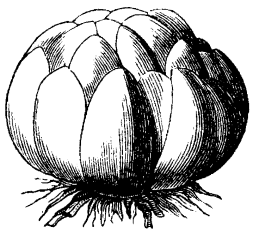
We accept Visa or MasterCard Exp. Date



- **Complete ordering information on page 3.**
- Please fill out the address information and totals blocks above. We *must* have a road name for UPS delivery.
- For early delivery of rootstock or for scionwood, send a SASE for the order form or download it from our website.
- If you want Priority Mail delivery, minimum shipping charge is $14 or 20% for orders with an adjusted total over $70.
- We will add a $10 handling fee if you ask us to make adjustments after we have received your order.
- We ship between April 5 and April 17; we will add a $15 handling fee if you specify a shipping date within this period or if you specify shipment around May 4.
- Consider donating your refund to the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association (MOFGA) Permanent Site Fund.

Fedco Trees 2006: Trees, Shrubs & Plants

	Item #	Number of pkgs.	Number of plants	Description	Price per package	Total Price
1						
2						
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If you are ordering more than 24 items, you may copy this page or our format and submit as many pages as you need.

Subtotal
(carry to other side)

Suggestions:

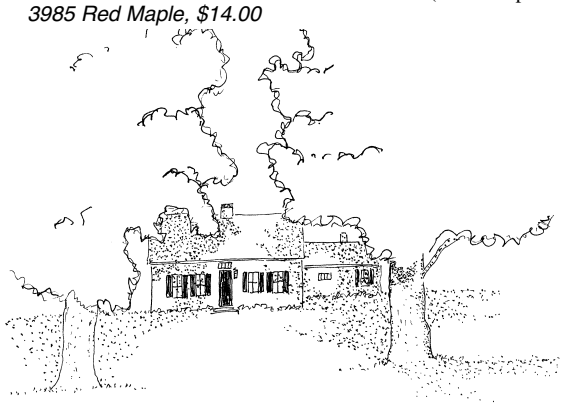
Shade Trees

Shade trees are the workhorses of the landscape. They clean the grubby air; they store and transpire vast quantities of water; they protect and cool and conserve the earth itself. Although they aren't too busy during winter, that is often the time when I most appreciate them. We made the long trek to Central Park last February to see Christo's orange gates. The park was mobbed. Everywhere there were hundreds of people walking and laughing and taking photographs. There was even a wedding. Thousands of fluttering orange banners lined miles of paths. And the best part of all? The canopy of massive leafless shade trees. The web of undulating limbs and branches juxtaposed to the linear gates with their orange drapery was fantastic. What a wonderful event in a wonderful site. I love the shapes and shadows of the large trees in winter.

Each year we offer some of our favorites. Other larger trees throughout the catalog that will provide shade include all the apples (#**0028**ff), all the conifers (#**3270**ff), some of the nuts (#**3760**ff), several crabapples (#**4519**ff), and the Japanese Tree Lilac (#**4912**).

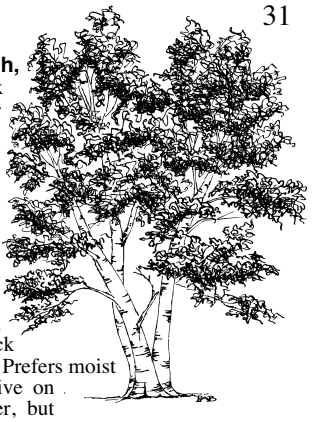
Acer rubrum **Red Maple** 50-60' Also known as **Swamp Maple**. While the Sugar Maple often has a bushier shape, the Red Maple usually has a central leader and a more upright growth habit. In early spring the dark red flowers cover the driveway long before any leaves appear. In the fall the foliage turns electric orange, yellow, brilliant red or maybe all three on one tree. The astounding combinations of colors surround me as I head off in my truck to go apple exploring every October. Excellent in the yard. Does not have the weak branching problems of Silver Maple. Sometimes tapped for sap in spring. Transplants easily. Prefers moist acid conditions but is adaptable to dry locations. Note that this is *not* the red-leaf maple *A. platanoides* 'Crimson King'. Native to eastern North America. Z3. **ME Grown.** (3-6' transplants)

3985 Red Maple, $14.00



A. saccharum **Sugar Maple** 50-100' Largest of our native maples, also known as **Rock Maple**, valued for shade, syrup, and lumber. Famous for its yellow gold scarlet and crimson fall foliage. Light grey bark. Fresh sap a spring treat. Very hardy. Shade tolerant, making it easy to interplant in existing woods. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. Huge upright spreading form. Traditionally a pair of Sugar Maples was often planted in front of a farmhouse on the inhabitants' wedding day. Those "wedding trees" still grace many Maine front yards after all these years. Susceptible to salt and air pollution; not a good city tree. Native Quebec to Gulf Coast. Z3. **ME Grown.** (4-6' transplants)

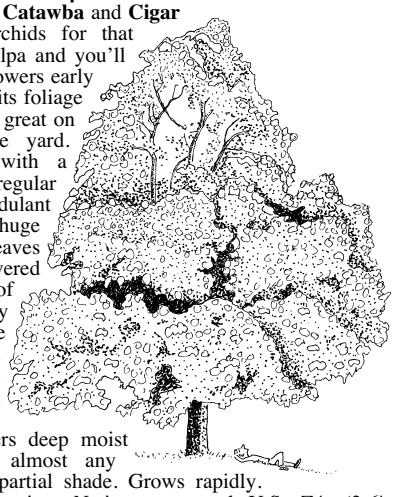
3990 Sugar Maple, $14.00



Betula papyrifera **Paper Birch, Canoe Birch** or **White Birch** 30-70' x 30' Medium-sized tree with an irregular oval shape, upright angled branches and magnificent chalk-white peeling bark. Deep green foliage produces light shade in summer and turns clear yellow in fall. Birds prize the catkins, buds and seeds. Twigs are a favorite deer browse. Bark traditionally used for canoes, containers and roofing. I've even seen it used as an amazing wallpaper. Wood quite valuable at the sawmill. Sap makes an excellent "maple" syrup. Branches, stuck into the ground, make great pea fencing. Prefers moist well-drained acid soil though ours thrive on ledge. At its best in Zone 4 or colder, but grows well as far south as Pennsylvania, about Zone 6. Native to northern North America. (4-5' transplants)

4016 Paper Birch, $12.00

Catalpa speciosa **Northern Catalpa** 40-60' Also known as **Western Catalpa**, **Elephant Ear Tree**, **Catawba** and **Cigar Tree**.If you can't afford orchids for that special someone, plant a Catalpa and you'll be swimming in orchid-like flowers early every summer. With its form, its foliage and its flowers, this tree looks great on the street and great in the yard. Fast-growing coarse habit with a somewhat narrow open irregular crown and thick interesting undulant branches. Dense foliage of huge "elephant ear" heart-shaped leaves provides excellent shade. Covered in early summer with clusters of orchid-like ruffled incredibly fragrant jasmine-scented white blossoms each dotted with purple and spotted with rich buttery yellow radiating from the throat. Fruits are long bean-like "cigar" pods. Prefers deep moist fertile soil, but thrives in almost any conditions and soils, sun or partial shade. Grows rapidly. Remains dormant late into spring. Native to central U.S. Z4. (3-6' transplants)

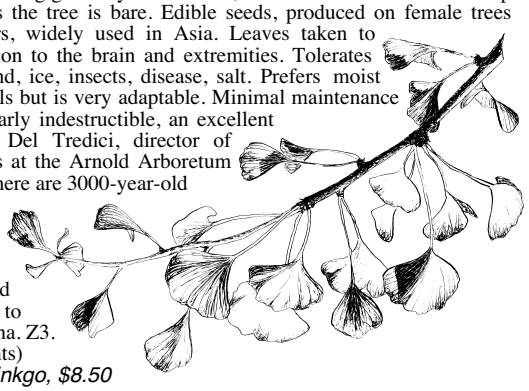


4030 Northern Catalpa, $11.00

Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea' **Purple Beech** 50-60' x 40-60' Also called **Copper Beech**. Discovered in the Hanleiter Forest near Sondershausen, Germany, before 1772. Purple-leafed form of the European Beech. A massive and incredibly magnificent tree that is widely planted in central and southern New England though not so common up this way. There are some absolutely breath-taking specimens in the Boston area. The coloring is awesome: deep purples and maroons, reds, and even orange, depending on the position of the sun. The rounded form reminds me of a gigantic gum drop or maybe a lady's old-fashioned hoop skirt. A thickly foliated curtain of branches hangs to the ground, forming a huge inner sanctuary. Looking up from inside the canopy, the undersides of the leaves are luminescent emerald green. It's unbelievable. Slow to medium-fast growing. Beautiful thick smooth grey bark—the kind that makes you want to start carving hearts. Prefers moist well-drained acid soil. Native to Europe. Hardy in the warmer areas of Zone 4. (4-5' transplants)

4065 Purple Beech, $20.00

Ginkgo biloba **Ginkgo** 50-80' Also called **Maidenhair Tree**. Considered the oldest living genus of seed plants; grew in North America in the time of the dinosaurs. Upright when young with branches that spike out and up like the rays of the sun, eventually becoming wide-spreading and graceful. Slow-growing, can be extremely long-lived. Unique fine-cut fan-shaped foliage turns sparkling golden-yellow in fall, then all at once the leaves drop and within hours the tree is bare. Edible seeds, produced on female trees after 20-50 years, widely used in Asia. Leaves taken to enhance circulation to the brain and extremities. Tolerates smoke, dust, wind, ice, insects, disease, salt. Prefers moist sandy neutral soils but is very adaptable. Minimal maintenance requirements, nearly indestructible, an excellent city tree. Peter Del Tredici, director of living collections at the Arnold Arboretum in Boston, says there are 3000-year-old specimens in China. Male and female tree required for fruit. These are unsexed seedlings. Native to southeastern China. Z3. (18-24" transplants)

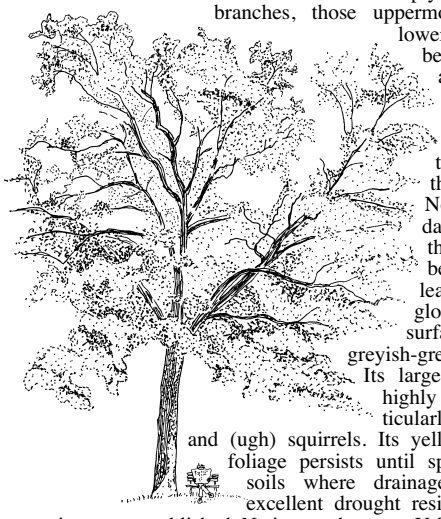


4090 Ginkgo, $8.50

***Prunus maackii* Amur Chokecherry** 20-40' x same. Extremely hardy medium-sized spreading rounded tree with year-round interest. White flowers in 2-3" long racemes in mid-spring. Spectacular dazzling bark makes the whole tree sparkle, varying in color from golden brown to dark red with glistening metallic flakes that exfoliate like birch when the tree is young. The color reminds me of an enormous golden Chinese buddha. Rich deep olive-green ovate foliage Red-black 1/4" berries in midsummer, relished by birds and also suitable for jelly, juice and wine. Prefers well-drained soil. Native to the Amur region of eastern Russia. Z2. (3-6' transplants)

4135 Amur Chokecherry, $19.00

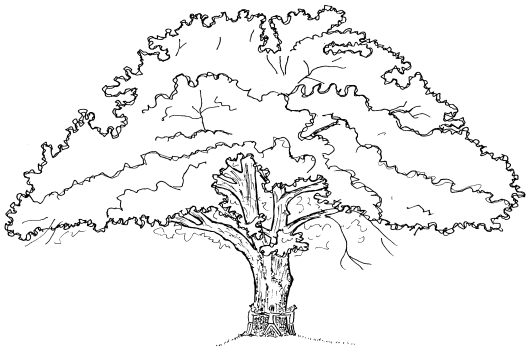
***Quercus bicolor* Swamp White Oak** or **Bicolor Oak** 50-60' x same. A massive rounded shade tree with a short deeply ridged trunk and a fan of branches, those uppermost ascending and those lower, drooping. The contrast between the light grey bark and the dark trunk fissures is particularly striking. Called Swamp White in recognition of its affinity to the wild low wetlands that once peppered eastern North America before the days of the parking lot and the big box. Called Bicolor because its large thick leathery lobed leaves have a glossy dark green upper surface and a white to greyish-green hairy felty underside. Its large 1 1/2" sweet acorns are highly attractive to wildlife, particularly water fowl, sapsuckers and (ugh) squirrels. Its yellow to reddish-purple fall foliage persists until spring. Prefers moist, acid soils where drainage is poor, but exhibits excellent drought resistance as well. Very fast growing once established. Native northeastern U.S. Z3. (2-4' transplants)



4150 Swamp White Oak, $14.50

***Q. palustris* Pin Oak** 60-90' x 70-100' Young trees have a distinctive pyramidal habit maturing to a spectacular large rounded form. Unique among oaks for its long spreading horizontal branches, the lower ones angling towards the ground. Though the name most likely comes from its branches being thickly covered with short pin-like twigs, it also has a perfectly upright straight pin-like trunk akin to the shuttle Discovery on the launch pad. The deeply incised shiny green leaves with pointed lobes are unmistakable. Leaves turn reddish to brown in the fall and acorns are a little smaller and rounder than the red oak's. Although not native to Maine, it is fairly common around the state. Some of the best specimens can be found in Portland's parks, including, of course, Deering Oaks. Lacks a tap root so transplants readily, preferring moist well-drained acid soils. Tolerates urban conditions. Native southern New England to Arkansas. Z4. (2-4' transplants)

4160 Pin Oak, $14.50



***Q. rubra* Red Oak** 60-80' Also called **Northern Red Oak**. The most common oak in northern New England and a common tree in central Maine. Typically a single large trunk dividing into several large ascending spreading branches. While the branches are not as massive as some of the other oaks, its open rounded crown is magnificently impressive. The trunk is a deep grey textured web of surfaces overlaid upon one another. Fast growing, up to two feet per year. Prefers well-drained sandy, slightly acid soils. Those on my farm thrive in the shallow ledgey ground. Will tolerate shade, compacted soil, salt, pollution and other urban conditions. Sharply toothed foliage turns orange-tan during apple season. The 1" acorns feed the native population and sprout with ease more or less wherever they land. Eastern U.S. Z4. (2-4' transplants)

4170 Red Oak, $14.50

Where can I see that tree?

There are many top quality public gardens and arboreta in the New York/New England area where you can see labelled specimens of the ornamental trees and shrubs listed in our catalog. Here are a few of the best:

Maine:

- Lyle E Littlefield Ornamentals Trial Garden, Orono (small but very good) (207)-581-2948, www.ume.maine.edu/~nfa/lhc/little.htm

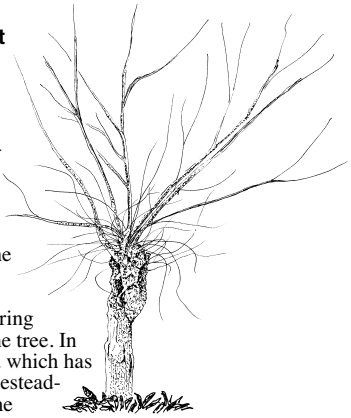
Massachusetts:

- Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain 617-524-1718, www.arboretum.harvard.edu
- Garden In The Woods, Framingham 508-877-7630, www.newfs.org/garden.htm
- Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge 617-547-7105, www.mountauburn.org
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston 508-869-6111, www.towerhillbg.org

New York:

- Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn 718-623-7200, www.bbg.org
- New York Botanical Garden, Bronx 718-817-8700, www.nybg.org

***Salix* spp. 'Cape Rosier' Basket Willow** 50' more or less. If you're looking to make a basket, a bowl or maybe a boat this could be the only material you need. Beautiful subtly golden-colored basket willow propagated from the old Nearing Homestead on Cape Rosier, ME. Their trees have been pollarded for many years, a European pruning technique of severely cutting back the main branches to enhance the formation of long whips for basket-making. This enables easy annual spring harvesting and controls the size of the tree. In time, the trees develop a gnarly head which has great character. Stanley Joseph, homesteader on Cape Rosier and neighbor of the Nearings, used this willow for many years to make everything from baskets to boats (the Irish coracle). It was with Stanley's encouragement many years ago that I first planted basket willows at my home in Palermo. Prefers sun and moist soils. Z4. **ME Grown.** (3-6')



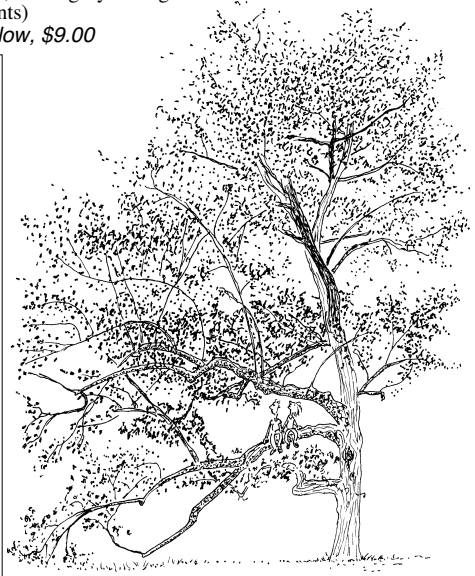
4190 Cape Rosier Willow, $12.00

***S. alba* 'Tristis' Niobe Weeping Willow** 50x50' The classic weeping willow, a very large majestic and extremely graceful wide-spreading tree. Golden drooping branches can hang to the ground. Branches used for basket weaving; golden bark and leaves used medicinally. Not to be confused with the Whomping Willow of Hogwarts fame—branches sway freely in the breeze but are unlikely to attack, though roots have been known to disrupt plumbing. Easily transplanted and fast growing. Prefers sun and moist soils. Native to southern Europe and western Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.** (4-5')

4195 Niobe Weeping Willow, $9.00

***S. matsudana* 'Snake' Snake WIllow** 30-50'. A fast-growing wide oval tree with distinctively curled wiggled and twisted branches. The twigs look like sine waves—or maybe the stock market. Even the foliage loops and curls. Snake is a selection of the standard contorted 'Tortuosa' willow with an even more wild branching habit. Interesting outside in the yard and beautiful in a wreath or a vase. Quite nice as a young specimen. Keep it pruned and keep it small if you like. Drought tolerant, although like the other willows, it'll thrive in a moist location. Native to Argentina. Generally considered a Zone 5 plant, although you might find it does well in Zone 4. **ME Grown.** (12-16" tranplants)

4200 Snake Willow, $9.00



***Tilia americana* American Linden** 60-80' Also known as **Basswood**. Tall stately tree with rounded crown and numerous low-hung spreading branches. Good tree for attracting bees no matter how remote the location. Sweetly fragrant yellow June flowers reputed to make the best honey, also a popular after-dinner tea and stomach remedy. I consider it the best soft carving wood. Inner bark, tough and fibrous, used for ropes and nets. Young fruit and flowers ground into a paste as a chocolate substitute. Yellow fall color. Likes deep rich moist soils, but will grow in dry heavier soils. Full sun or partial shade. Sensitive to salt and pollution. Tolerates alkaline soil. Subject to Japanese beetles and other insect damage, though control measures are seldom needed. May live to 900 years. Native New Brunswick to Virginia. Z3. (2-4' transplants)

4205 American Linden, $12.00

Ornamental Trees

Although some of these smaller trees are certainly large enough to provide shade and others may provide excellent wildlife food and cover, their chief attribute tends to be their beauty. Some have spectacular blooms while others have amazing foliage, fragrance, bark, branch structure or overall appearance. All deserve to be planted more often than they are.

Cercis canadensis **Redbud** 25-30' Small irregularly vase-shaped tree is one of the most wonderfully ornamental. Clusters of small brilliant purplish-pink pea-like flowers in early spring are so abundant it seems that any place there could possibly be a flower there is one. They even dot the graceful branches themselves and come right out of the trunk. It's an astonishing sight. Very large, up to 7", heart-shaped leaves emerge a beautiful opaque pink, gradually mature to deep green and give bright yellow fall color. 2-3" flat leguminous pods. Excellent honey plant. Sun or partial shade. Fine as a specimen tree or in groups. Needs sweating before planting to break dormancy, instructions on page 5. Native to central and eastern U.S. Z4. (3-6' transplants)

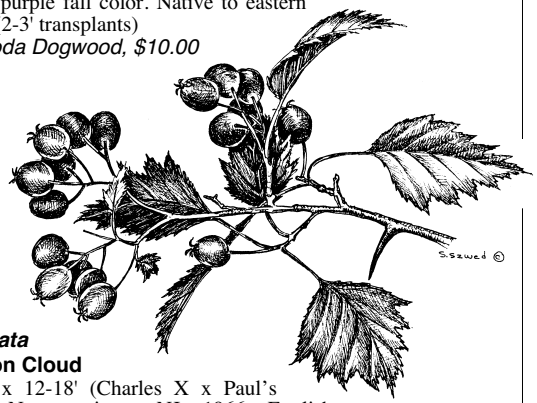
4240 Redbud, $18.00

Chionanthus virginicus **White Fringe Tree** 15-30' x 30' Michael Dirr, in his definitive *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*, suggests that fringe tree should be our national shrub. I agree. Large multistemmed shrub or small tree with an open spreading rounded form. So completely covered with lightly fragrant clouds of feathery lacey white flower-clusters in spring that you can hardy see the beautiful glossy rich dark green foliage when it's in bloom. From a distance, it looks like a tree with a poof. Spectacular as a specimen, in groups, borders, near buldings. Small bluish-black fruit sought by birds. Adaptable, but prefers moist fertile acid soil. Tolerates air pollution; does well in cities. Native of eastern U.S. Z3. (2-year 18-24" transplants)

4245 Fringe Tree, $14.00

Cornus alternifolia **Pagoda Dogwood** 20' x 30-35' Also known as **Alternate-Leaved Dogwood**. Small tree or large multistemmed shrub, particularly beautiful for its tiers of horizontal branches and their distinct sympodial (consecutive "Y's") branching habit right down to the smallest twigs. Extremely fragrant white 2-3" flower clusters in mid-late spring, followed by immature olive-green berries, each tipped with a tiny bright yellow style remnant. In midsummer clusters of dark blue berries ripen above the blue-green foliage. One of the most popular dogwoods with the birds. Prefers partial shade and moist well-drained acid soil, but tolerates full sun, poor soil and even clay. pH adaptable. Excellent naturalized as a specimen or in groups and often found growing with sugar maple, beech and basswood. Reddish-purple fall color. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

4255 Pagoda Dogwood, $10.00



Crataegus laevigata **'Superba' Crimson Cloud Hawthorn** 15-20' x 12-18' (Charles X x Paul's Scarlet) Princeton Nursery intro, NJ, 1966. English Hawthorn selection with an attractive freely unkempt rounded form and remarkably beautiful large single bright red flowers, each centered with a white star. Glossy red persistent fruit. Species formerly named *C. oxyacantha*, this is the hawthorn usually mentioned in herbals. Flowers and fruit valued as a cardiac and circulatory tonic. Deep dark green leaves resist leaf spot diseases typical of many hawthorns. Nearly thornless. Thrives in most sites and soils, pH adaptable. Native of Europe and North Africa. Z4. (4-6' transplants)

4275 Crimson Cloud Hawthorn, $25.00

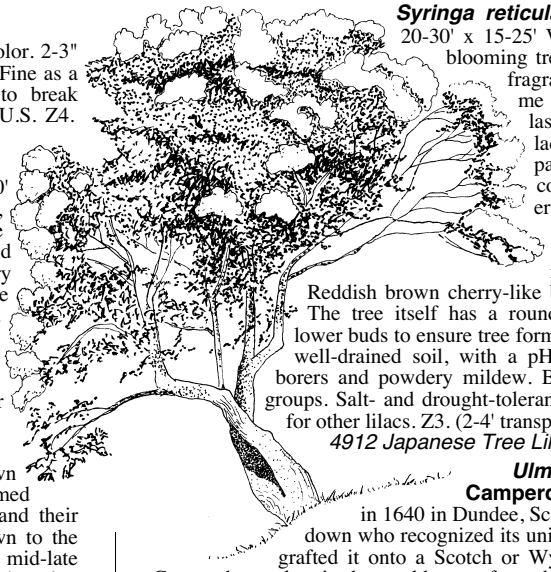
Hamamelis virginiana **Witch Hazel** 20-30' A small tree or large shrub of irregular rounded form and interesting crooked branches. Yellow 1/2" flowers with a unique fresh fragrance appear in the fall. Oval wavy-edged foliage opens ruddy red, matures to a matte green and then climaxes a brilliant golden-yellow. Witch hazel extract, from leaves, young bark and roots, has astringent and antiseptic uses. Said to be the preferred wood of dowsers. Full sun or shade. Prefers moist acid soils; avoid dry spots. No pests or diseases, does well with very little care. Native Canada to Georgia. Z3. (12-24" transplants)

4332 Witch Hazel, $9.00

Malus **Crabapples** *4519-4797* on pages 34-35.

Sorbus decora **Showy Mountain Ash** 20-25' Also known as **Northern Mountain Ash**. Small tree with a spreading rounded crown and classic mountain ash leaf shape; each of the pinnately compound leaves has about a dozen blue-green long narrow toothed leaflets, somewhat whitened on the underside. Showy bright white umbel-like blossoms in spring, large bright red berries, yellow-red fall color. Oddly enough, you can graft pears onto mountain ash. Definitely a way to surprise your neighbors. Prefers moist soils. Hardiest of the mountain ash. Native of northeast U.S. and Canada. Z2. (3-4' transplants)

4903 Showy Mountain Ash, $17.00

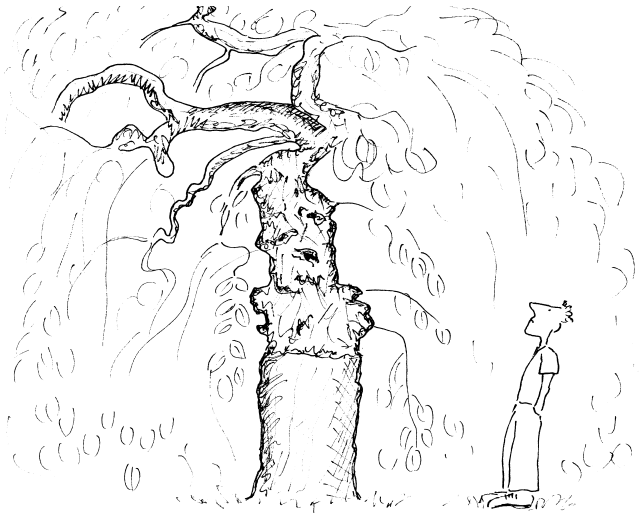


Syringa reticulata **Japanese Tree Lilac** 20-30' x 15-25' What a treat to sit beneath a blooming tree lilac in early summer with fragrant petals dropping all around me as the bumblebees work the last snow-white blossoms. Large lacy triangular creamy-white panicles—each made up of countless tiny 4-petaled flowers—perch above the canopy of dark green foliage. Their wonderful fragrance is reminiscent of almond extract. Reddish brown cherry-like bark is grooved and checked. The tree itself has a rounded irregular habit. Strip off lower buds to ensure tree form. Full sun to partial shade and well-drained soil, with a pH of 6.5-8. Resistant to lilac borers and powdery mildew. Beautiful as a specimen or in groups. Salt- and drought-tolerant. Native of Japan. See p. 43 for other lilacs. Z3. (2-4' transplants)

4912 Japanese Tree Lilac, $11.00

Ulmus glabra **'Camperdownii' Camperdown Elm** 15x30' Discovered in 1640 in Dundee, Scotland, by the Earl of Camperdown who recognized its unique and wonderful shape, and grafted it onto a Scotch or Wych elm (*U. glabra*). All the Camperdown elms in the world come from that original tree. Low-growing mounded very wide-spreading weeping form. Somewhat contorted branches laden with thick dark green summer foliage hang to the ground, creating a protected "room" which looks quite dense from the outside, but is completely open on the inside—plenty of space for a table and chairs. To establish weeping habit for the height you desire, follow instructions on page 35 for weeping crab. The leaves, much larger than the familiar American elm's, turn yellow in autumn. Many older specimens of this amazing tree are thriving around the state, including those by the Camden amphitheater and the two next to the Maine State Capitol's entryway, overlooking the Kennebec River. Not susceptible to Dutch elm disease. Prefers well-drained moist fertile soils. Z4-5. **ME Grown.** (#1 grafted, 5-6' plants)

4923 Camperdown Elm, $30.00



Malus Flowering Crabapples

A crabapple is an apple with fruit smaller than 2" in diameter. Of the 24 recognized species of apples, most are considered to be crabs. Some produce no fruit at all or fruit so small you'd hardly know it's there. Others produce fruit as sweet as candy, or fruit for wonderful jellies and pickles or cider, or masses of persistent fruit that will attract birds all winter and into spring.

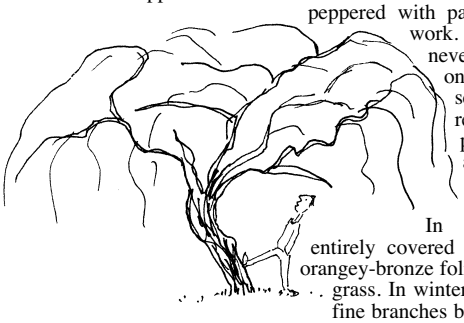
A crab's most glamorous attraction is its bloom. Pinks and reds are often the most sought after. However, white-flowering varieties can be stunning with their simultaneous explosion of red and pink buds, soft green foliage and pure white flowers.

A good crabapple tree is one with four-season interest. Flowers in spring, shade in summer, fruit in fall and winter, and the shape and branching habit of the tree are all part of what makes a crab so wonderful to have in the yard. I limit pruning to a touch-up here and there, preferring to allow each to take on its own unique identity.

My own love of crabapples stems (pardon the pun) largely from visits to the excellent collections in the Arnold Arboretum in Boston and the Lyle Littlefield Gardens in Orono. The Arnold has one of the most extensive in the world. The best book is John Fiala's definitive text, *Flowering Crabapples: The Genus Malus*.

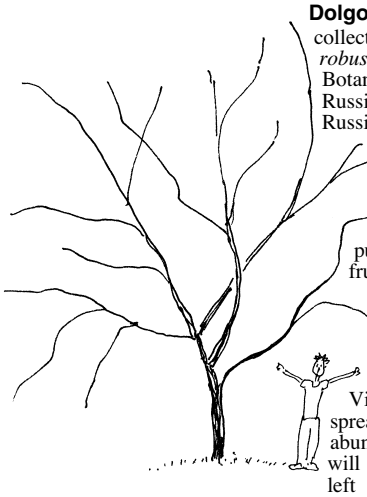
Most crabapples bloom annually in May just before the lilacs and make excellent pollinators for any apple. (3½-6' trees)

AA 185-52 15x33' Karl Sax selection, c. 1952, Arnold Arboretum, Boston, MA. The crabapple collection on Peters Hill at the Arnold Arboretum is peppered with past director Karl Sax's work. Some of the best were never introduced. 185-52 is one of my favorites. A search of Sax's notes revealed no record of its parentage. Very wide and low red-leafed weeper with deep pink single cupped flowers. In summer the tree is entirely covered with a dense rich red orangey-bronze foliage which hangs to the grass. In winter the undulating web of fine branches becomes nearly invisible and the gnarly wide vase-shaped open framework is revealed. In other words, beautiful year round. Z4. **ME Grown.**



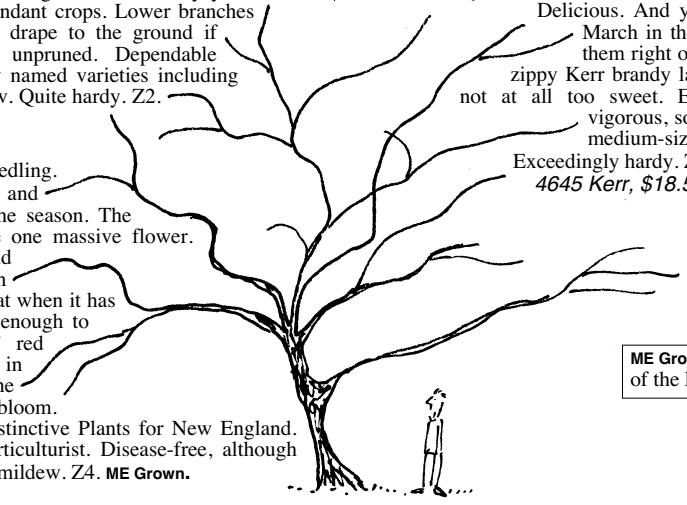
4519 AA 185-52, $22.00

Dolgo 25x30' Summer. From seed collected by NE Hansen of *M. x robusta* in 1897 at the Imperial Botanical Gardens, St. Petersburg, Russia. (*Dolgo* means 'long' in Russian.) Introduced in the U.S. in 1917. *The* classic flowering crab still found in old Maine backyards. Large fragrant 2" pure white single flowers bloom early. Beautiful purple-red 1½" teardrop-shaped fruit makes flavorful clear bright ruby-red jelly. In recent years the aromatic very sweet, very acidic fruit has found favor with hard cider makers. Also useful for canning and pickling. Vigorous large blocky upright spreading tree consistently yields abundant crops. Lower branches will drape to the ground if left unpruned. Dependable pollinator for all apples. Parent of many named varieties including Centennial, Kerr (#**4645**) and Spring Snow. Quite hardy. Z2. **ME Grown.**



4575 Dolgo, $18.50

Donald Wyman 20x30' Chance seedling. Arnold Arboretum, 1970. Deep pink buds and large 2" single white flowers early in the season. The bloom is so intense, the tree looks like one massive flower. Beautiful medium-dense rounded and wide-spreading medium-sized tree with attractive glossy green foliage. Looks great when it has room to spread out. The shape alone is enough to recommend this cultivar. The bright ⅜" red oval fruit completely covers the tree in clusters and persists until spring when the birds clean it off in time for the next bloom. 2001 winner of the Carey Award for Distinctive Plants for New England. Named in honor of America's great horticulturist. Disease-free, although said to be slightly susceptible to powdery mildew. Z4. **ME Grown.**

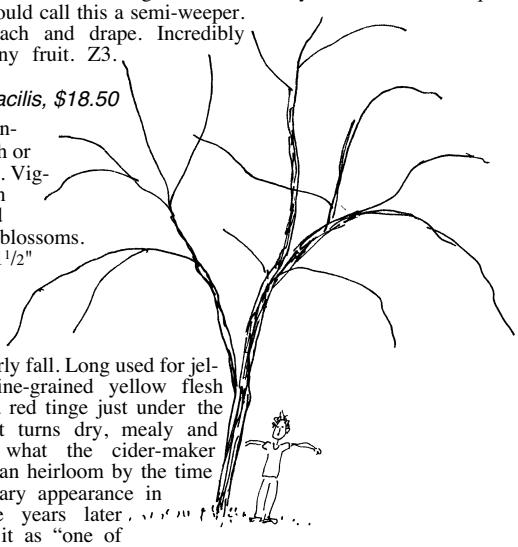


4579 Donald Wyman, $18.50

Gracilis 15x25' (No. 329 *M. baccata* seed collected by William Purdon in 1910 in China, introduced in the U.S. by the Arnold Arboretum.) Imagine a tree 16' x 25' with layers of branches gently sweeping the grass as well as the sky, with mounds of fine luminescent-green foliage covered with 10,000 snow drops or lilies of the valley. That's Gracilis in bud stage. Although the buds are actually faint pink, the overall effect is green and muted white. In full bloom the thousands of very small single white blossoms give the tree a lacy ethereal aura. Unique among crabs. I would call this a semi-weeper. The branches reach and drape. Incredibly beautiful tree. Tiny fruit. Z3. **ME Grown.**

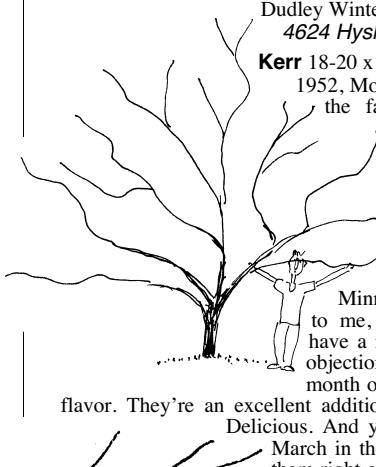
4600 Gracilis, $18.50

Hyslop 25x30' Unknown origin. 18th or early 19th century. Vigorous upright open spreading rounded tree. Single white blossoms. Thick clusters of 1½" roundish fruit—brilliant dark red with a heavy blue bloom—ripen in late summer or early fall. Long used for jelly and cider. Fine-grained yellow flesh sometimes with a red tinge just under the skin is juicy but turns dry, mealy and astringent. Just what the cider-maker ordered. Already an heirloom by the time of its debut literary appearance in 1869. Thirty-five years later Beech described it as "one of the best known and most widely cultivated of the crabapples." Of historic value for us Mainers, it being the pollen parent of the fine Castle Hill apple Dudley Winter (#**0220**). Z3 or maybe 4. **ME Grown.**



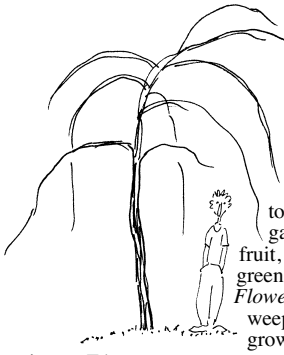
4624 Hyslop, $18.50

Kerr 18-20 x 22-25' (Morden 352) Dolgo x Haralson. 1952, Morden, Manitoba, Canada. Introduced by the famous Canadian plant breeder W.L. Kerr. Heavy annual bloom of single white flowers followed in late summer by firm deep red oval fruit that bend the branches with their weight. If heavily thinned, the fruit can approach 2" in diameter, but 1½" is more typical. Minnesota fruit explorer Bob Purvis wrote to me, "When picked and eaten fresh, they have a noticeable 'twang' to the flavor that is objectionable, but after they mellow for a month or two, that goes away, leaving a unique flavor. They're an excellent addition to making applesauce from Golden Delicious. And yes, it is true that Kerr will keep until March in the refrigerator." Unlike Bob, I do enjoy them right off the tree. I should add that we made a zippy Kerr brandy last year that was exceedingly tasty and not at all too sweet. Extremely productive, precocious and vigorous, somewhat dense rounded multi-branched medium-sized tree has no real central leader. Exceedingly hardy. Z3 or maybe even 2. **ME Grown.**



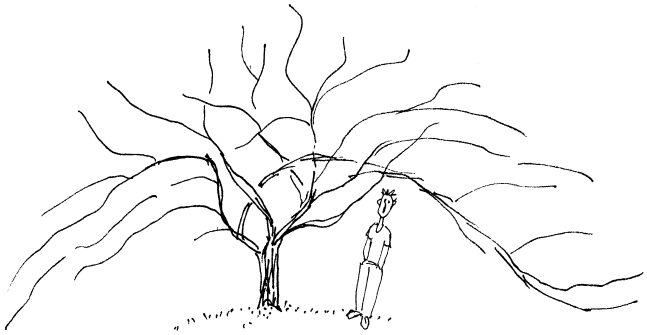
4645 Kerr, $18.50

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop



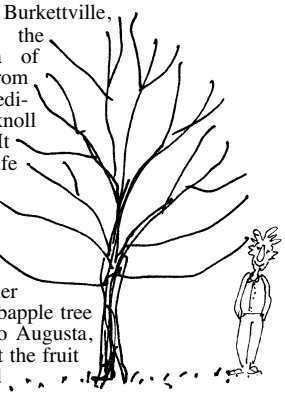
Louisa 15x15' Martha's Vineyard, MA, 1962. Introduced by Polly Hill and named for her daughter. Umbrella-shaped weeping form. Branches arch very slightly and then hang loosely to the ground and sway in the breeze almost like a weeping willow. Rose-colored buds open to cheerful true pink flowers. Not at all garish. Small cute two-toned long-stemmed fruit, lemon-gold with a small rose blush. Dark green foliage. Father John Fiala in his classic *Flowering Crabapples* calls it "one of the newer weepers that should be far better known and grown. An outstanding crabapple." Disease resistant. Z4. **ME Grown.**

4659 Louisa, $22.00



Mary Potter 15x30' AA 17039 (*M. sargentii* 'Rosea' x *M.* x *atrosanguinea*) 1939, Arnold Arboretum, Boston, MA. Another Karl Sax selection—this one named and introduced. Fiala considers it Sax's finest. The Arnold still has a beautiful specimen. Relatively low but quite wide-growing tree with branches that broadly arch to the ground and then sweep up. Will grow only 8-10' high for many years though may reach 15' eventually. Red buds and 1" single white blooms. Heavy flowering and abundant 1/2" persistent red fruit. The birds will thank you. Widely recommended and even recently requested by a customer. Luckily, we already had it in the nursery! Can tend toward alternate bearing. Z4. **ME Grown.**

4677 Mary Potter, $18.50



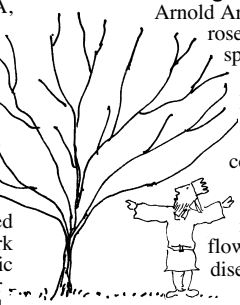
McDonald 15x15' Unknown parentage. Burkettville, ME. A large-fruited crab prized in the Burkettville (Appleton) midcoast area of Maine. I learned about McDonald from Fedco grower Delton Curtis. The medium-small heavy-bearing tree sits on a knoll just behind his in-laws' farmhouse. It blooms pink and white. As Delton's wife Becky tells it, shortly after her folks purchased the place in 1959, "an elderly neighbor Mrs. Grinell approached them and stated she had been gathering fruit from a crabapple tree on their property for years and to her knowledge it was the only McDonald crabapple tree around. Mrs. Grinell eventually moved to Augusta, but would return each year to help harvest the fruit for her famous pickled crabapples and crabapple jelly." Rare! Z4. **ME Grown.**

4680 McDonald, $18.50

Crabapples are really just apples in disguise. They prefer full sun and deep well-drained soils of 5.5-6.5 pH but they are quite forgiving and will thrive in many locations with a little TLC. They don't like to be drowned or starved for water, and they do need to be protected from borers, mice and deer. See page 6. Planting instructions on page 5.

Pruning Crabapples

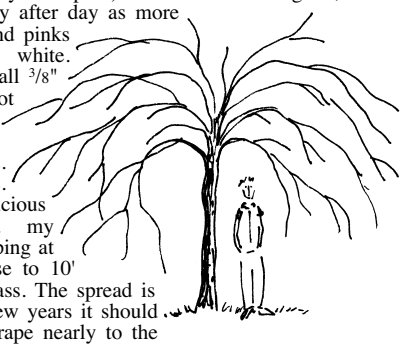
Most crabapples require little or no pruning except when a branch is broken or you feel compelled to shape your tree in one way or another. Allow each tree to assume its own unique form. Weeping crabs however do require pruning and training.



Prince Georges 15' x 15' (*M. ioensis* x *M. coronaria* var. *angustifolia*) Arnold Arboretum, MA, 1943. Deep pink buds and double light pink rose-type flowers, each with an amazing 53-61 petals. Heavy spectacular annual bloom. Fragrant flowers look—and smell—like roses. Small open tree requires practically no pruning and is suited to even the smallest yard or garden. On top of all that, it's fruitless. No muss, no fuss! Some will love the lack of fruit production, while others may consider it bourgeois. Regardless of your class affiliation, its sterility does ensure a reliable bloom every year. Medium-green narrow palmate "maple-like" foliage quite reminiscent of Paperbark Maple. Always the last crab to flower each spring and always worth the wait. Virtually disease-free. Z4. **ME Grown.**

4736 Prince Georges, $18.50

Red Jade 12-15' x 15-20' Chance seedling of *M. floribunda* 'Exzellenz Thiel', Brooklyn Botanic Garden, NY, 1953. Magnificent dense fine-branched weeper. The spring combination of yellow-green foliage, pink buds and single white (actually faint pink) blossoms has a magical, almost surreal quality. Changing day after day as more buds open and the greens and pinks merge and soften to white. Beautifully covered with small 3/8" long-stemmed light red—not pink—fruit, born in clusters up to 5 per bunch and annually popular with birds. Glossy vibrant green foliage. Using long stakes and judicious pruning, I have trained my 6-year-old tree to begin weeping at 7'. The arching branches rise to 10' and hang to 5' above the grass. The spread is about 12'. Within the next few years it should reach a spread of 20' and drape nearly to the ground. Z4. **ME Grown.**

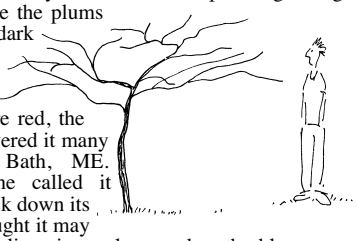


4754 Red Jade, $22.00

Red Swan 10x14'. John Fiala introduction, Falconskeape, Medina, OH. The great crabapple breeder considered Red Swan, originally called Red Snow, one of his best introductions. Wide spreading mop-topped dishveled weeping form. Reddish-pink buds and 1 1/2" light pink flowers turning white. Masses of small elliptical bright orange-red persistent fruit will hang until January. Long graceful fine branches. Annual bloomer. Golden yellow fall foliage. Z3. **ME Grown.**

4761 Red Swan, $22.00

Semi-Weeping Red 10-12' x 20' Unknown parentage and origin. This is a fantastic tree. It doesn't weep but rather it snakes and crawls and reaches out across the yard, the undulating branches barely rising above a horizontal plane. After nine years, my tree is only about six feet tall. I pass it en route to the barn—often a dozen times a day—and every time I do, I marvel at its shape and color. As beautiful in January as in June. Deep rich glowing electric-red foliage opens just before the plums bloom in mid-May. The half-open dark red buds dangle in clusters below the leaves like the decorative fringe on the rim of a holiday sombrero. The fruit is red, the leaf petioles are red, the whole tree is red. Roger Luce discovered it many years ago in a nursery near Bath, ME. Unfortunately he lost the tag; he called it Semi-Weeping Red. I've tried to track down its identity but with no luck. Roger thought it may have never caught on because the foliage is nearly as red as the blossoms, making it difficult to distinguish one from the other. That has never bothered me. Very small insignificant fruit. Z4. **ME Grown.**



4797 Semi-weeping Red, $25.00

Training Your Weeping Crab

First summer: Stake the tree and do not prune it at all. Staking keeps the the tree from weeping before reaching the desired height. Tie the tip (central leader) snug to the stake.

Second summer: Decide at what height you want weeping to begin. Continue to train the leader to the stake until it reaches the desired height. Leave some but not all the lower branches.

Later years: Once the leader reaches the height to begin weeping, let several branches form and begin to weep. (The nicest weepers I've seen begin weeping at about 6-8' high.) Over 2-3 years, remove all the lower branches. Eventually remove the stake. Continue to remove lower branches as necessary.

Woody Ornamental Shrubs

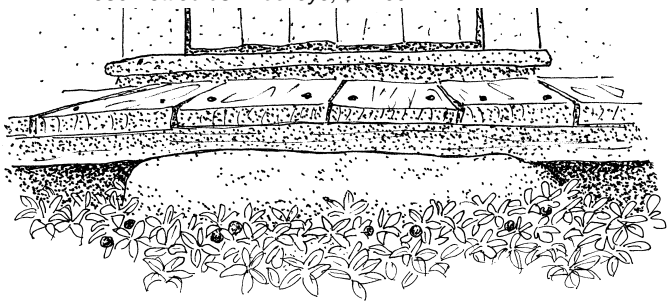
Although many of these shrubs are multi-use plants, all are cultivated primarily for their flowers, fragrance, foliage or interesting form. They range from diminutive and delicate to large and breathtaking. Some are old standards and some are relatively unknown. We plant them to reduce the amount of lawn we feel compelled to mow, while increasing the beauty and wildlife cover that surrounds us. It's great to see that lawn shrinking a bit more every year!

Abeliophyllum distichum **White Forsythia** 4x4' Vigorous multistemmed informal rounded shrub with clusters of white spicy-scented forsythia-like flowers in very early spring. Makes a good companion for true forsythia, and a more reliable bloomer in the North than true forsythia. Prefers sunny well-drained locations, but will tolerate most soils. Cut back to 6-12" every 3-4 years. Native to Korea. Z4. (12-18" transplants)

4930 White Forsythia, $8.00

Aesculus parviflora **Bottlebrush Buckeye** 10-12' x 15' Irregular large wide multistemmed suckering shrub with beautiful horse chestnut-like foliage and jaw-dropping midsummer flowers. Forms absolutely magnificent multi-level colonies. The medium to dark green foliage turns yellow-green in fall and is always disease-free. In early summer green asparagus-like spears appear across the surface of the colony and then open up into spectacular 10-18" plume-like feathery panicles that stand upright above the foliage in a mass. It is a major show-stopper in and out of bloom. Excellent as a border plant. You can grow it in the sun but it will thrive in the shade. Prefers well-drained acid soil. Native to SE North America. Z4. (12-18" transplants)

4936 Bottlebrush Buckeye, $14.00

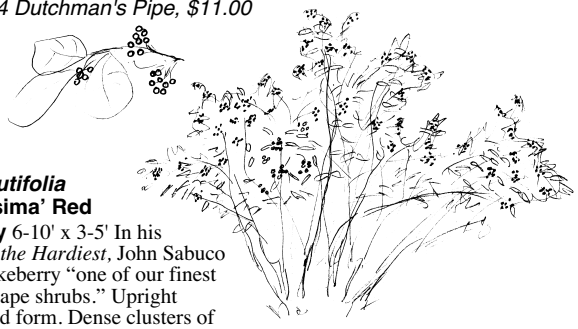


Arctostaphylos uva-ursi **Bearberry** Also called **Kinnikinick**, **Mealberry**, **Hog Cranberry**, **Sandberry**, **Mountain Box**, **Bear's Grape**. Delicate, low-growing and exceptionally beautiful glossy spreading evergreen ground cover. Magnificent plant for acid soils. One plant can spread to fifteen feet. If you like native plants, you might visit Van Berkum wholesale Nursery in Deerfield, NH, where a display features stone steps surrounded by *Arctostaphylos*. Wow! What a beautiful plant. Small dainty beautiful pinkish-white flowers in spring. Small bright red drupe-type berries color up in late summer and persist into winter. Leaves are powerfully astringent and have many medicinal uses. Prefers poor sandy infertile acid soils, tolerates salt, but is difficult to transplant. Beware! Set plants a few feet apart. No need ever to prune or fertilize. Sun or partial shade. Native to North America and Eurasia. Z2. **ME Grown.** (well-rooted transplants)

4945 Bearberry, $8.50

Aristolochia durior **Dutchman's Pipe** 20-30' Also called **Pipe Vine**, a vigorous climber with large 4-10" heart-shaped dark green leaves. Can cover screened porch or trellis in 2-3 seasons. Sun or shade, thrives in shade. Likes well-drained soil with adequate moisture. Inconspicuous U-shaped tubular flowers in clusters of 1-3 with white base, mahogany lobes which look like a "Dutchman's Pipe." Native to eastern U.S. Z4. (2yr medium vines)

4954 Dutchman's Pipe, $11.00



Aronia arbutifolia **'Brilliantissima' Red Chokeberry** 6-10' x 3-5' In his book *Best of the Hardiest,* John Sabuco calls red chokeberry "one of our finest native landscape shrubs." Upright multistemmed form. Dense clusters of small but showy white flowers with red stamens. Dark green foliage turns absolutely spectacular crimson in the fall. In huge demand as *the* best alternative to the invasive burning bush. Abundant persistent glossy bright red fruit birds will love. Spreads by suckers. Beautiful in masses, plantings and borders. Transplants easily. Adapted to many soils, wet or dry, but prefers moist and well-drained. Sun or partial shade. Can be trained into a small tree. Native eastern U.S. Z4. (12-18" transplants)

4961 Red Chokeberry, $9.00

Pruning Directions for Ornamental Shrubs, Trees and Berries

The success, satisfaction and beauty you obtain from your flowering shrubs and trees is dependent upon proper pruning. Trim shrubs for large blooms, finest foliage and best form.

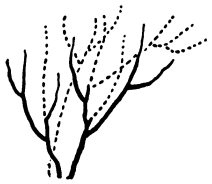
Why Pruning Is Necessary

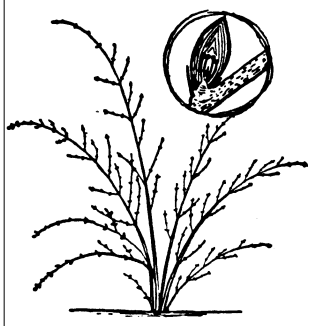
1. Most shrubs need a few of the older canes cut off at the ground line each year to encourage the growth of new young canes. This is a natural rejuvenation procedure of old canes with new.
2. Larger and better blooms are obtained with pruning as the vitality of the plant goes to the blossoms, rather than supporting heavy wood growth.
3. The natural shape of the shrub is retained by removing the poorly shaped longer branches.
4. Health, neatness and vigor are retained by removing broken, dead or diseased branches.
5. Shrubs with unusual bark coloring should have the older canes removed, as the full natural coloring is obtained only in the young new growth.
6. Certain varieties of shrubs sucker from the roots. These suckers should be removed unless you want the shrub to spread and form colonies.

Pruning shrubs is primarily thinning out older undesirable canes. Varieties such as hydrangeas, altheas, tea roses, tamarix and dogwoods should have all canes pruned back to produce larger flowers or more brightly colored canes.

The nature of growth of a tree may be controlled by pruning. If you desire a tall tree with a high crown, prune the lateral branches from the trunk and prevent formation of low crotches. For a low, stocky tree used in screens and windbreaks, cut back the top shoots to force side growth.

Remove oldest wood and center branches (a few each year).





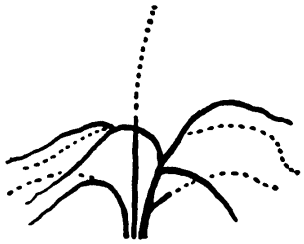
Prune Late-Flowering Shrubs Early

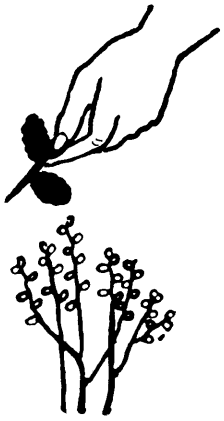
Midsummer-flowering shrubs form flower buds on new wood. For maximum bloom, prune them in early spring before the new wood begins to grow.

Prune Early-Flowering Shrubs Later

Spring-flowering shrubs form flower buds in the summer after they are finished blooming. For maximum bloom the following year, prune them immediately after their bloom is over.

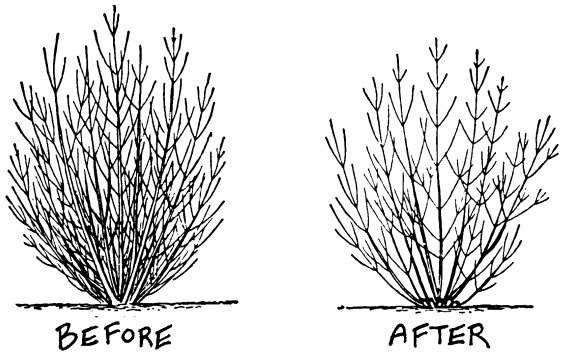
Retain natural arching habit by pruning branches after flowering. Otherwise new growth starts at the tips of flowering branches and the shrub gets top-heavy.





Pinch off the growing tips and remove flowers as soon as faded.

Prune For Healthy Growth

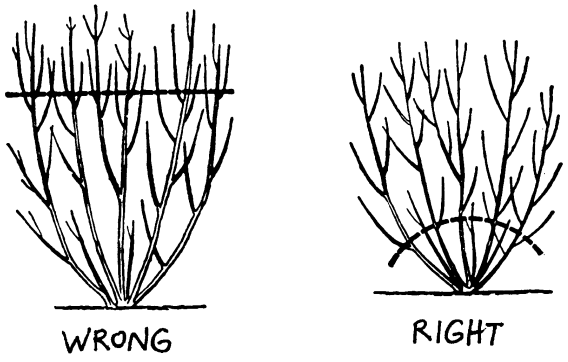


Before

Your shrubs will tell you when they need thinning. Shrubs such as Honeysuckle send up too many canes for best growth. Cut off a few of the oldest and least vigorous branches close to the ground. Do not injure bark on canes to be saved.

After

Note the difference thinning of canes makes. Air and light can now penetrate. Fewer canes promote vigor, health and vitality. Plants will produce more and larger blossoms. Slow growing, less vigorous shrubs seldom need thinning out.



Prune For Symmetry and Appearance

Cutting back tops of shrubs straight across is a common error. This encourages top-growth and the lower part of the shrub, with no foliage near the base, becomes woody and unsightly. Growth stays low and bushy when properly pruned.

Proper pruning promotes growth at the base of the shrub. Larger flowers on hydrangeas, altheas, hybrid tea roses, tamarix and butterfly bush are obtained by severe pruning. Colorful branches and twigs on dogwoods develop on new stems.

What To Do with Over-Grown Shrubs

Overgrown shrubs with little foliage near the base may be rejuvenated by cutting down each cane at the ground line in early March. All overgrown shrubs should be pruned thusly, even though early blooms may be sacrificed.

Shrubs cut back for rejuvenation will send forth new shoots in the late spring. This growth will be bushy with foliage clear to the ground. Pinch off tops of growth when desired height is attained. It usually takes two to three years to rejuvenate shrubs and hedges completely.

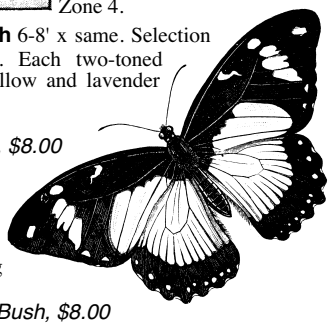
***A. melanocarpa* Black Chokeberry** 4-6' x same. Compact rounded shrub suckers profusely to form colonies. Showy white blooms in late spring. Glossy green foliage all summer turns brilliant wine-red in fall. Attractive black berries may be palatable enough for fresh eating, but probably more suited to juice, jelly or our feathered friends. Its black fruit and glossy foliage distinguish *A. melanocarpa* from *A. arbutifolia*. Not particularly picky about where it grows. Adaptable to wet or dry areas, sun or partial shade. Disease and insect free. Native eastern U.S. Z3. (12-18" transplants)

4965 Black Chokeberry, $9.00

***Buddleia* Butterfly Bush** 5-8' x same. Colorful attractive arching shrub with 4-6" panicles of fragrant flowers in midsummer that are guaranteed to attract zillions of butterflies, bees and hummingbirds. In New England treat it as an herbaceous perennial. Cut it to the ground in early spring—or just let it die back—and it will bloom again on new wood come summer. Recommended for shrub or perennial borders. Not really a specimen plant. Grey-green foliage. Easy to transplant. Very adaptable but begs for full sun. Can become a nuisance weed in southern states, but that shouldn't ever be a problem up here. The renowned plantsman Michael Dirr is a big fan of Buddleia. This year we are offering two of his introductions. Usually considered to be a Zone 5 plant though it may do well in Zone 4.

***B.* davidii 'Bicolor' Butterfly Bush** 6-8' x same. Selection of Honeycomb. Michael Dirr intro. Each two-toned panicle includes both butterscotch yellow and lavender flowers. Compact habit. **ME Grown.** (well-rooted crowns)

4990 Bicolor Butterfly Bush, $8.00



***B. x weyeriana* Honeycomb Butterfly Bush** 4-6' x same. Michael Dirr intro. Creamy-yellow buds followed by yellow flowers, each with a deep orange eye. Upright spreading habit. **ME Grown.** (well-rooted crowns)

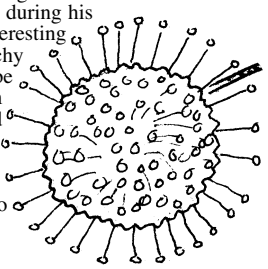
4995 Honeycomb Butterfly Bush, $8.00

***Celastrus scandens* American Bittersweet** or **False Bittersweet** 20' or more. A highly ornamental native vine. The insignificant flower display in spring is followed by beautiful grape-like clusters of small red-orange-yellow berries for holiday wreaths and other dried flower arrangements. Also quite beautiful right on the vine. (This is *not* the invasive Asian Bittersweet—*C. orbiculatus*—which you should never grow!) Deep glossy summer foliage turns yellow-green in fall. Very vigorous climbing twining habit, will grow in nearly any soils although it does not like the driest sites. Suitable for covering porches, stone walls, rough hillsides, old cars and unsightly outbuildings. Prefers full sun. Male and female required for fruit. These are unsexed vines. Although some plants may have both male and female flowers, plant two or three plants to ensure fruit. Native eastern North America. Z3. (2yr medium plants)

5038 American Bittersweet, $8.00

***Cephalanthus occidentalis* Buttonbush** 6-10' x 8' The masses of buttonbush bordering the shores of Massachusetts' Sudbury River are in full bloom each July as we follow Thoreau's "footsteps" in our kayaks. The spherical other-worldly-looking fragrant white flowers, up to 1" across, crawl with honey bees. Flowers appear for 4-6 weeks in summer and look like a cross between "sputnik," an "eighth-grade Helium-atom science project," and "one of those hats Sun Ra wore during his intergalactic music concerts." They make interesting dried flowers. The loose rounded branchy shrubs with bright green foliage seem to be growing *in* the river. Plant beside your stream or pond, *in* your pond, or even on an old floating log. It will secure its roots to the muck below and feed the ducks with its seeds (nutlets) in the fall. Recommended for naturalizing. Native to eastern U.S., west to New Mexico. Z4. (24-36" transplants)

ME Grown.



5049 Buttonbush, $9.00

Chaenomeles lagenaria 'Rubra' **Red Flowering Quince** 4-6' x same. A multistemmed wide vase-shaped somewhat arching rounded shrub that I've had growing by the path up from the driveway for 20 years now. Looks good all season. The long bloom time is one of the brighter signs of spring. Prolific and showy 5-petaled crimson red flowers appear just before the foliage. The leaves are shiny dark green and slightly leathery, reminiscent of holly. Regularly sends up more stems but never seems to spread that much. The medium-sized fruit is edible but bitter. (This is not the edible Quince, *Cydonia oblonga,* of Owl and Pussycat fame.) However, it is valued for its culinary and medicinal qualities in east Asia. Average acid soil. Sun to partial shade. You might get better fruiting in full sun. Native to east Asia. Said to be Zone 5 but mine has done well in Zone 4. **ME Grown.** (2 year transplants)

5060 Red Flowering Quince, $10.00

Clethra alnifolia **Clethra 'Ruby Spice', Summersweet** or **Sweet Pepperbush** 4-5' x same. Sport of 'Pink Spires', Broken Arrow Nursery, Hamden, CT, 1992. A *New York Times* article called Clethra "a plant that sounds almost too good to be true." Red buds and beautiful spires of heavenly scented deep pink flowers appear on racemes for 6 weeks in midsummer. Bees and butterflies love it but not so rabbits and deer. Whorls of extremely attractive finely serrated distinctly veined dark green foliage turn deep gold in fall. Dangling racemes of "peppers" persist into the next growing season. Erect rounded-oval habit, often suckering to form dense colonies. Very easy to grow. Slow growing. Prefers acid moist well-drained soils. A good shrub to border streams and ponds. Will tolerate salty coastal conditions. Full sun to shade. Pest free. Native from Maine to Florida. Z3. **ME Grown.** (6-24" transplants)

5069 Ruby Spice Summersweet , $10.50

Cornus alba **Tatarian Dogwood** 8-10' x 5-10' Open loose suckering shrub with long lightly-branched beautiful deep-red arching stems. Yellowish-white flowers in mid-late spring and slightly bluish-white 3/8" fruit in early summer. Most attractive as a border plant in groups or masses. Plant it where you can enjoy its winter color and give it space to move. It may overgrow neighboring shrubs, though it's not so rampant as our uncontrollable Red Osier (*C. sericea*). Adapted to many soil conditions but prefers it moist and well-drained. Sun or partial shade. Annually prune a third of the older stems to 6" in late winter as the young shoots are the most colorful. Native northeastern Asia. Z2. **ME Grown.** (2-4' transplants)

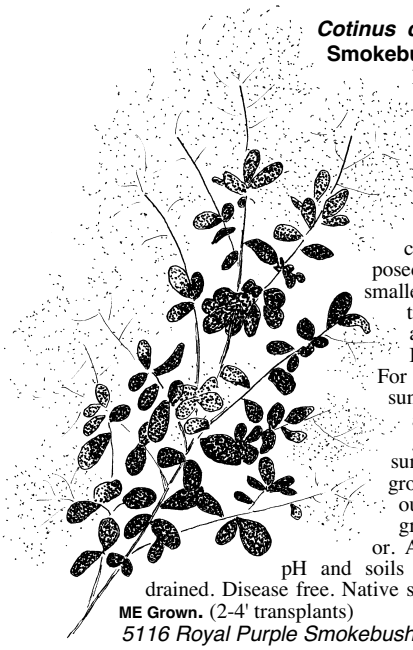
5083 Tatarian Dogwood, $9.00

C. amomum **Silky Dogwood** 6-10' x same. Rounded rangy multistemmed shrub with attractive purple-red stems which are especially beautiful in winter. Valuable for naturalizing borders, streams and wetlands. Effective in masses or even windbreaks. Medium-fast growing. Yellowish-white flowers in late spring followed by sprigs of blue berries in midsummer that sit above the medium green foliage. Purple fall color. Deer will browse the stems and leaves and traveling songbirds and local fowl will browse the berries. Prefers moist well-drained soils, although it is adaptable even to somewhat poorly drained wet locations. Does not like droughty spots. Sun or partial shade. Easy to transplant. Native eastern U.S. Generally listed as Z5 but probably hardier. Z4/5. **ME Grown.** (3-6' transplants)

5086 Silky Dogwood, $9.00

Corylus avellana **'Contorta' Harry Lauder's Walking Stick** 6-12' x 15-20' Discovered in Frocester, Gloucestershire, England, 1863. A non-fruiting grafted European filbert with a dense mounded form, grown for its contorted branches, leaves and catkins. Branching begins low and curves, twists and curls from the largest branch down to the tiniest twig. Even the drooping foliage is wrinkled and curled. It's a completely wonderful sight. Highly attractive year round, but especially in winter. Also used in flower arrangements, canes, handles and ornamental woodworking. Smoky dark grey—almost black—bark. Prefers well-drained loamy soil, full sun to partial shade. It's very important to remove any straight suckers that will often appear at or from below ground level. Not truly hardy in Zone 4 although mine survived the last two bad winters with minimal dieback. Z4/5. (12-24" grafted trees)

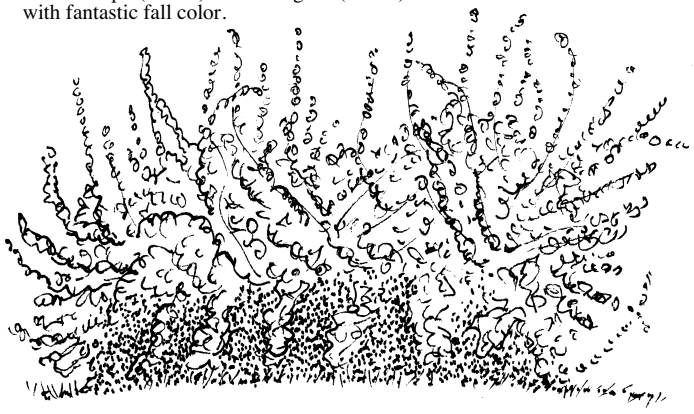
5107 Harry Lauder's Walking Stick, $34.00



Cotinus coggygria **'Royal Purple' Smokebush** 8-10' x same. Boskoop, Holland. Upright spreading shrub with velvety dark purple foliage and amazing purplish-pink inflorescences that look like large smoke puffs on top of the branches throughout summer. Each one of these cotton candy-like poofs is composed of a web of fine stems, the smallest of which are lined with tiny hairs that reflect the light and create an ethereal effect. It's really quite remarkable. For maximum glow, plant in a sunny location. Often considered a Zone 5 plant, but reliably grows back and flowers each summer in Zone 4. Cut to the ground each fall for more vigorous and more brightly colored growth. Red-burgundy fall color. Adaptable to a wide range of pH and soils although it prefers it well-drained. Disease free. Native southern Europe to China. Z4. **ME Grown.** (2-4' transplants)

5116 Royal Purple Smokebush, $8.50

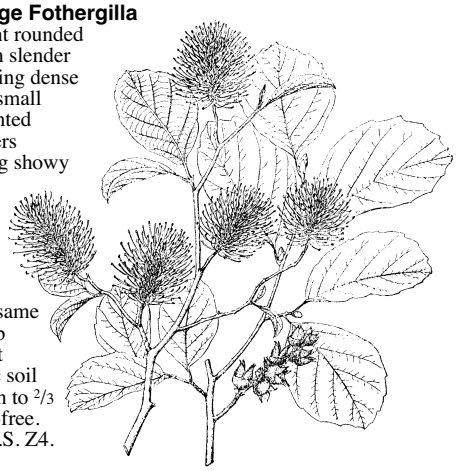
Euonymus alatus **'Compactus' Burning Bush** Due to its inclusion on every invasive species list we've seen, *we no longer offer* Burning Bush. For fall color, we highly recommend Aronia arbutifolia (#**4961**), Aronia melanocarpa (#**4965**) or Fothergilla (#**5157**). All three are excellent natives with fantastic fall color.



Forsythia **x** ***ovata*** **'Northern Gold' Forsythia** 6-8' x 5-7' Ottawa, Canada, 1979. If your forsythia blooms only from the snow-line down, you were duped. Northern Gold has not only the outstanding bud hardiness necessary for flower production *above* the snow line, but also outstanding golden-yellow flowers. Masses of forsythia embellish the bridge embankmants along the Maine Turnpike. You *too* can have a full bloom every year! Upright form with grey-yellow branches clad in rich green healthy foliage. Prefers moderately fertile, slightly acid to neutral soils with good drainage. One of the first flowers in spring. Bred from *F. ovata*, a hardy dependably blooming Korean species. Z3. (12-18" transplants)

5142 Northern Gold Forsythia, $8.50

Fothergilla major **Large Fothergilla** 6-10' x same. Magnificent rounded multistemmed shrub with slender crooked branches becoming dense with maturity. Amazing small creamy-white honey-scented bottlebrush-shaped flowers (inflorescences) with long showy stamens. Blooms in spring, usually around lilac time. Attractive dark green to blue-green leathery leaves turn brilliant yellow, orange and scarlet, often on the same leaf, in fall. A great shrub year-round. Prefers moist well-drained peaty acidic soil but is very adaptable. Sun to 2/3 shade. Disease- and pest-free. Native to southeastern U.S. Z4. (8-12" beefy transplants)



5157 Large Fothergilla, $12.00

***Hydrangea arborescens* 'Annabelle' Hydrangea** 3-5' x same. A major improvement over the old standard herbaceous hydrangea. A very upright yet rounded shrub, the earliest and most erect of the hydrangeas. Large clusters (up to 1') of showy white to faint-yellow flowers bloom in late June till September. Big 5-6" almost heart-shaped foliage. Grows fast, suckers freely, thrives in shade. Cut to the ground and fertilize lightly in late winter for stunning bloom next summer. Suited to perennial borders and naturalized gardens. A Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Gold Medal Plant Award winner. Species native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (1yr #1 plants)

5168 Annabelle Hydrangea, $12.00

***H. macrophylla* 'Endless Summer' Hydrangea** 3-5' x same. Bailey Nursery Introduction, St. Paul, MN, 2004. This is the blue flowering hydrangea that is causing all the hoop-la in the gardening world. Perhaps you saw it on the cover of *People, Places & Plants*. Why is Fedco offering such a trendy plant? Most Bigleaf Hydrangeas (*H. macrophylla*) bloom only on old wood. After a typical Maine winter you get dead flower buds and no flowers. 'Endless Summer' blooms on old and new wood. Even if the plant dies to the ground, you'll get those large showy 8" mop-head blooms *that* summer. Not only that, but it will bloom blue in acid soils and pink is alkaline soils. Dense dark green foliage. Bronze fall color. Sun or partial shade. Prefers deep well-drained acid soils with lots of organic matter. If your soil needs acidification, check out the article in the Summer 2003 *People, Place & Plants* for some good suggestions. Native to Japan. Z4. (medium plants)

5172 Endless Summer Hydrangea, $19.00

***H. paniculata 'Compacta'* Compact Pee Gee Hydrangea** 6' x same. Compact form of Pee Gee Hydrangea still possessing all the wonderful qualities of the famous woody shrub but only about half the size. Arching branches and upright very showy large conical double white flower-clusters that bloom July-August, turning pink-bronze in autumn. Small serrated yellow-green leaves illuminated with a fine yellow edge. Prefers good loamy moist well-drained soil in sun or partial shade. Difficult to kill; urban tolerant. Species native to North and South America and eastern Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.** (18-30" transplants)

5178 Pee Gee Hydrangea, $10.00

***Ilex verticillata* Winterberry** A staple of the Maine landscape. Deciduous suckering holly with clusters of upright stems. Lustrous deep green leaves retain their color long after they're cut for decoration. Richly foliated, but open enough to display its interesting branching structure. Best known for profusions of bright red 3/8" berries which stand out after the leaves have fallen and keep their color all winter, looking spectacular against the snow. Excellent fall wildlife forage plant. Tolerates dry conditions but prefers moist or wet acidic soil, even standing water. Sun or partial shade. No serious pests or diseases. Male and female plants required for fruit. Plant males within 30' of females. Native from midwestern to eastern U.S. Z4.

***I.v.* 'Red Sprite'** 3-5' x 4-8' Female plant. USDA introduction. Smaller plant than the straight species with an attractive low loose rounded form. Winner of the 1998 Cary Award for Distinctive Plants for New England. 'Jim Dandy' male required for fruit. **ME Grown.** (6-12" beefy plants)

5189 Red Sprite Winterberry, $10.00

***I.v.* 'Jim Dandy'** 3-6' x 4-5' Male selection to pollinate 'Red Sprite' winterberry. One will pollinate several females. **ME Grown.** (6-12" beefy plants)

5193 Jim Dandy, $10.00

***I.v.* 'Winter Red'** 9x8' Female plant. Larger than 'Red Sprite'. Darker green foliage. Winner of the 1995 Styer Award. 'Southern Gentleman' male required for fruit. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

5197 Winter Red Winterberry, $10.00

***I.v.* 'Southern Gentleman'** 6x6' Male selection to pollinate 'Winter Red' winterberry. Don't be deceived by the name—it's hardy. One will pollinate several females. **ME Grown.** (18-24" transplants)

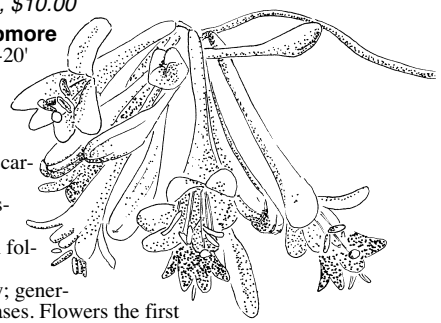
5201 Southern Gentleman, $10.00

***Itea virginica* 'Henry's Garnet' Virginia Sweetspire** 3-5' x 5-6'. Swarthmore College, PA. Spreading shrub with an erect clustered branching habit. Fragrant white flowers on upright racemes up to 6" long in early summer. Bright green foliage, brilliant reddish-purple fall color. Will form colonies. Henry's Garnet has both superior flowers and fall color. Winner of the prestigious Styer award and the 1999 Michigan Growers' Choice award. Recommended for moist or wet areas although quite drought tolerant as well. Sun or shade, pH adaptable. Species native to eastern U.S. Z5 or maybe 4. (6-12" beefy plants)

5204 Henry's Garnet, $8.50

***Kolkwitzia amabilis* Beautybush** 6-10' x 6-8' Fast-growing multi-stemmed shrub that likes to have plenty of room for its old-fashioned slightly unkempt arching vase-shaped form. Blooms in June, just before the mockorange and after the lilacs. Completely covered with small fragrant medium-pink 5-petaled tubular flowers, each throat etched with a web of yellow-orange veins and dots. The blossoms appear on the side shoots of every stem, up to 20 per cluster. There are literally thousands on a mature specimen. While the overall appearance is pink, the orange throat enriches the color. A real knock-out. Matte bluish-green slightly rugose foliage. Brown and grey exfoliating bark. Yellow and red fall color. Flowers can be forced indoors in spring. Prune after flowering, removing the oldest branches back to the ground. Excellent as a specimen or background shrub for shorter plantings. Easy to grow in any type of soil. Prefers full sun. No serious pests or disease. Native to Central China Z4. (12-18" transplants)

5210 Beautybush, $10.00



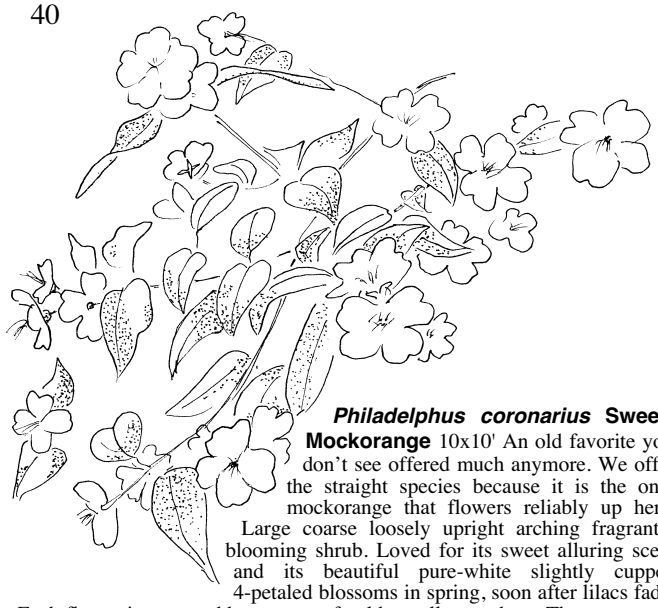
***Lonicera* x *brownii* Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle** 10-20' (*L. sempervirens* x *L. hirsuta*) Tall climbing honeysuckle developed by FL Skinner in Manitoba. Jazzy whimsical clusters of 1 1/2" scarlet-orange tubular flowers bloom profusely and tirelessly from early summer into late fall. Striking blue-green foliage on red stems. Great for fence or arbor. Easy to grow; generally free of insects and diseases. Flowers the first year. Considered the hardiest vine honeysuckle. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2yr medium plants)

5222 Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle, $10.00

***Myrica pensylvanica* Bayberry** 5-9' Rounded deciduous semi-evergreen very salt-tolerant shrub thrives in full sun to partial shade, sandy poor soils to heavy clay soils. A common sight on Maine's coastal islands. Rubbing the glossy deep green leaves between your fingers produces one of the most delicious smells in the world. Excellent in masses or hedges, tends to sucker. Fixes nitrogen. Small greyish-blue waxy berries produced on female plants are highly aromatic, historically used for candle making. Plants feed numerous wildlife species and are especially craved by swallows. Tends toward being dioecious. Male and female plants required for good fruit development. We're offering unsexed plants. Native to eastern U.S. Z2/3. (12-24" transplants) **ME Grown.**

5240 Bayberry, $9.00

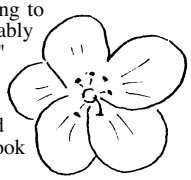
ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop



***Philadelphus coronarius* Sweet Mockorange** 10x10' An old favorite you don't see offered much anymore. We offer the straight species because it is the only mockorange that flowers reliably up here. Large coarse loosely upright arching fragrantly blooming shrub. Loved for its sweet alluring scent and its beautiful pure-white slightly cupped 4-petaled blossoms in spring, soon after lilacs fade. Each flower is accented by a spray of golden yellow anthers. The contrast of the flowers and deep dark blue-green foliage is lovely. Prefers moist rich well-drained soils, but will grow well in most conditions. Full sun to partial shade. Prune after flowering. Native to western Asia. Z4. (12-18" transplants)

5264 Sweet Mockorange, $10.00

***Potentilla fruticosa* Potentilla** Also called **Shrubby Cinquefoil** or **Widdy**. A compact rounded to broadly rounded bushy shrub with showy five-petaled rose-like flowers. Flowers all summer long, beginning the first year, has very small attractive grey-green compound leaves. Excellent landscape plant for shrub borders, low hedges, rock walls and steps. Loved by bees. Full sun or partial shade. Best in fertile moist well-drained soil, but tolerates poor dry soil. Needs sweating before planting to break dormancy, instructions on page 5. Unbelievably hardy. Native to Northern Hemisphere. Z2. (9-18" beefy plants)



***P. f.* 'Mango Tango'** 2x2' Univ of Manitoba introduction, Canada. Unusual tri-color orange, red and yellow blooms. Bright green foliage. Colors look brightest in cool weather and full sun.

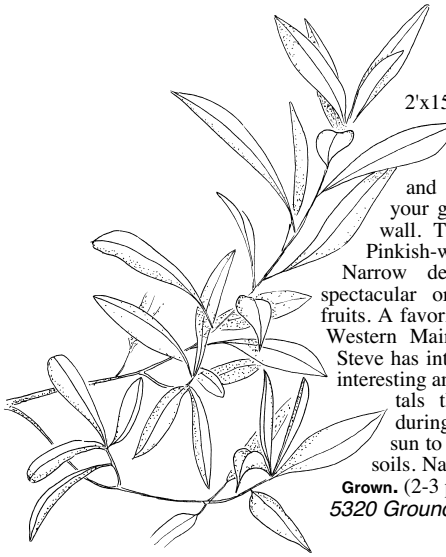
5306 Mango Tango, $10.00

***P. f.* 'Princess'** 2½' x same. Bressingham Gardens introduction. Delicate pink flowers each with a white reverse. Small rounded shrub. Like most pink Potentillas, Princess performs best in the north. If you're south of the Portsmouth bridge expect it to fade in the summer heat. **ME Grown.**

5316 Princess, $10.00

***P. f.* 'Snowbird'** 2½-3' x 2-3' White flowers. Upright compact form and glossy green foliage. Unlike most Potentillas, most of Snowbird's blossoms will be doubles after the first few years.

5317 Snowbird, $10.00

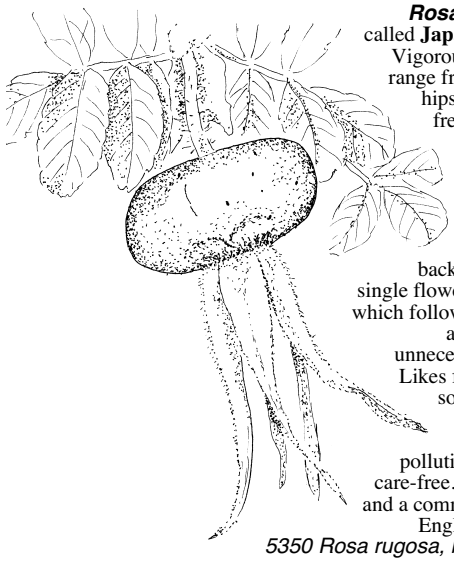


***Prunus pumila* var. *depressa* 'Catskill' Ground Sand Cherry** 2'x15' USDA introduction. Low growing "shrub" with beautiful undulating runners that will creep and wind their way through your garden or across your rock wall. This is a very cool plant. Pinkish-white flowers in spring. Narrow deep green foliage turns spectacular orange-red in fall. Edible fruits. A favorite plant of Steve Effner at Western Maine Woodies in Fryeburg. Steve has introduced us to many of the interesting and unusual native ornamentals that have appeared here during the past few years. Full sun to light shade. Tolerates poor soils. Native to eastern U.S. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-3 plants with 12" spread)

5320 Ground Sand Cherry, $10.00

***Rosa* Rose** Exceedingly hardy, vigorous, disease- and pest-resistant, and significantly easier to grow than most named varieties, these roses need not be pampered; all are rugged and hard to kill, forming beautiful hedges. Recommended as a solution for those who want roses but are tired of struggling with tender hybrid tea roses, or who associate roses with pests, poisons, disease and winterkill.

We focus on hardiness and fragrance in our rose selections. If the description says very fragrant, it is! Each year we offer a different selection of the best varieties available. If your favorite is not on the list this year, we may be offering it in 2007. All roses are stocky well-rooted plants that we cut back to about 6" to encourage optimal growth and bloom. (stocky well-rooted plants)

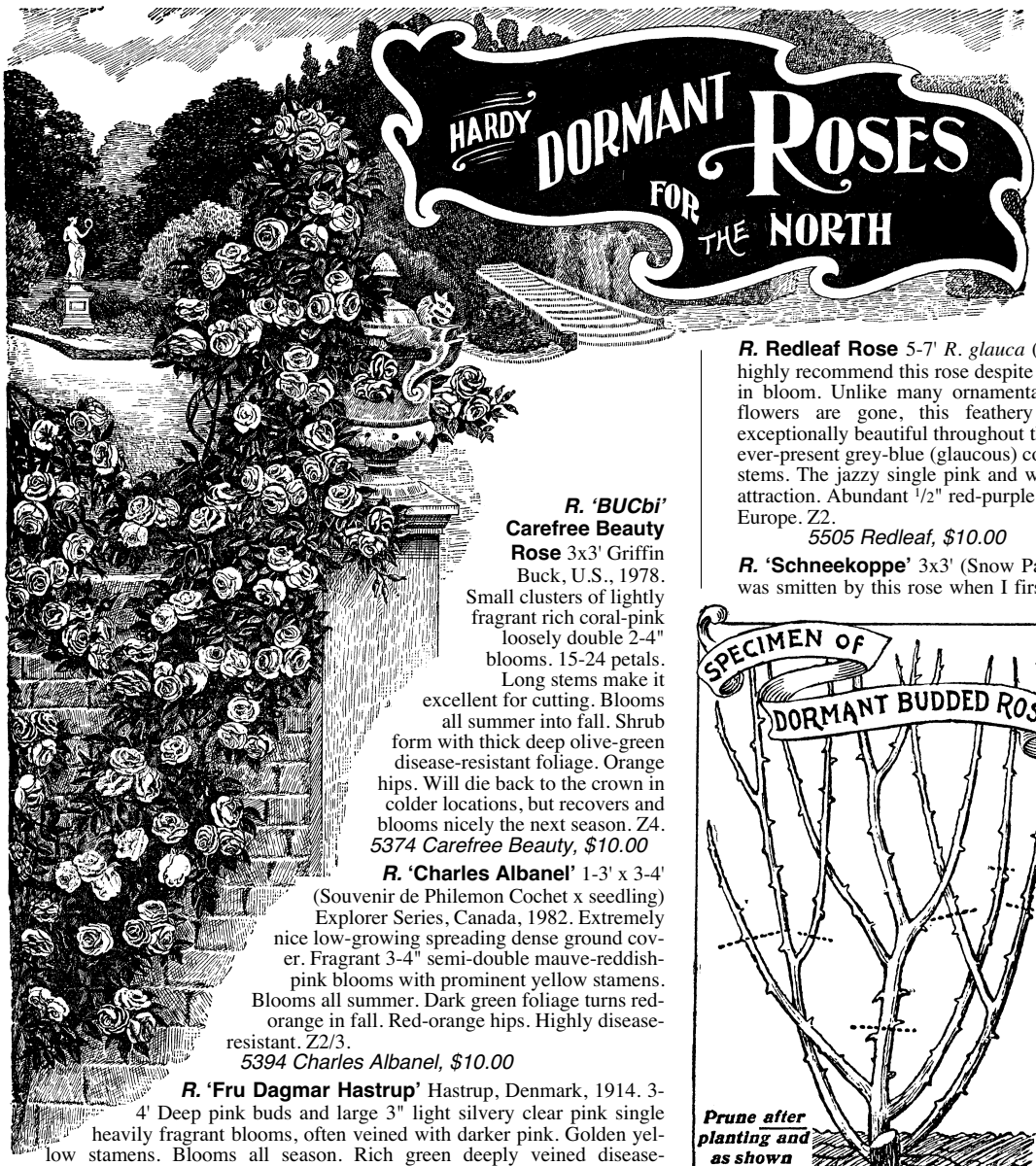


Rosa rugosa 4-6' x same. Also called **Japanese Rose** or **Beach Rose**. Vigorous spreading shrub. Flowers range from deep pink to white. Red hips up to 1" for jams, teas, and fresh eating right off the bush. Flowers used in traditional Chinese medicine to regulate *qi* and promote blood circulation. The dark green wrinkled, "rugose" leaves form a backdrop for the highly fragrant single flowers and the large edible hips which follow. Blooms form on both old and new wood, so pruning is unnecessary except to control size. Likes full sun, well-drained fertile soil with a pH of 6-7, but will grow in depleted soil and even sand. Tolerates salt, pollution, and drought; practically care-free. Native to China and Japan, and a common sight all along the New England coast. Z2. (2-2TR 2-3')

5350 Rosa rugosa, bundle of 3, $16.50

***R.* Bombu's Rose** Unknown origin. Vigorous long cane rambler. A few days into summer, the arbor on the way in from our driveway is suddenly transformed by thousands of incredibly fragrant 1" soft pink single flowers borne in fist-sized clusters of 20-50 flowers each. The sight is delightful; the fragrance is heavenly; the sound from the bees is remarkable. Planted in 1982 from one tiny root sucker brought back from Cape Cod, the rose is now about 25' across and mounded up over the 8' arbor. No sun penetrates below. I have attempted to determine the true name, but alas no luck. The original plant is long gone. For now I call it Bombu's Rose after my grandmother who tended the gardens that surrounded her old cape. It is likely a multiflora-type rambler. In southern districts it might spread from seed and could be a problem though it left no seedlings at Bombu's and has spawned only one seedling at my place in 23 years. Blooms for about ten days. Some dieback but it rebounds every year. Z4. **ME Grown.**

5372 Bombu's Rose, $10.00



***R.* 'BUCbi' Carefree Beauty Rose** 3x3' Griffin Buck, U.S., 1978. Small clusters of lightly fragrant rich coral-pink loosely double 2-4" blooms. 15-24 petals. Long stems make it excellent for cutting. Blooms all summer into fall. Shrub form with thick deep olive-green disease-resistant foliage. Orange hips. Will die back to the crown in colder locations, but recovers and blooms nicely the next season. Z4.

5374 Carefree Beauty, $10.00

***R.* 'Charles Albanel'** 1-3' x 3-4' (Souvenir de Philemon Cochet x seedling) Explorer Series, Canada, 1982. Extremely nice low-growing spreading dense ground cover. Fragrant 3-4" semi-double mauve-reddish-pink blooms with prominent yellow stamens. Blooms all summer. Dark green foliage turns red-orange in fall. Red-orange hips. Highly disease-resistant. Z2/3.

5394 Charles Albanel, $10.00

***R.* 'Fru Dagmar Hastrup'** Hastrup, Denmark, 1914. 3-4' Deep pink buds and large 3" light silvery clear pink single heavily fragrant blooms, often veined with darker pink. Golden yellow stamens. Blooms all season. Rich green deeply veined disease-resistant foliage. Very large red hips and bronze fall foliage. Need a hedge rose? It would be perfect. Z4.

5409 Fru Dagmar Hastrup, $10.00

***R.* 'Henry Kelsey'** 6-7' (*R. kordesii* hybrid x seedling) Explorer Series, Ottawa, 1984. Hardy climbing—or, more accurately, long caned—variety. Velvety-red semi-double (28 petals) 3" blooms with brilliant golden stamens. Similar to 'Champlain' although slightly larger and a slightly deeper red. Fades to deep rosy pink. Repeat bloomer and said to have a spicy fragrance, although I don't find it especially fragrant. Shiny deep bluish-green foliage. Tie up the long arching canes to a trellis or arbor, or let them reach low across the garden. Branches can be left to overwinter with minimal (if any) winter damage. Mine survived -30° with no problem. Disease resistant. Z3. **ME Grown.**

5439 Henry Kelsey, $10.00

***R.* 'J.P. Connell'** 4x3' [Arthur Bell x (Von Scharnhorst x open pollinated)] Explorer Series, Canada, 1987. Large yellow buds remain a beautiful yellow as they swell and finally open, then fade to a creamy apricot-tinged white, revealing their stiff golden stamens. The recurrent fully double blooms are intensely fragrant. Dense upright form with glossy rich green foliage. Will take at least a couple of years to get well established. Disease resistant. Z3.

5464 JP Connell, $10.00

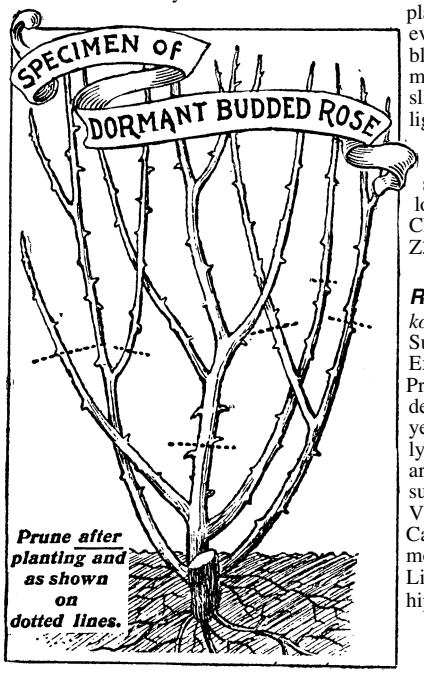
***R.* 'Marie Bugnet'** 3x3' [(Therese Bugnet x seedling) x F.J. Grootendorst] Bugnet, Canada, 1963. Lloyd Brace of the old Roseraie at Bayfields called Marie Bugnet "the best small white rose." The pure-white 3" double blooms are exceptionally fragrant. Plant it where you can smell it! Begins blooming early and continues until fall. New foliage is light green and matures to olive. Red stems are particularly attractive in winter. Disease resistant. Does not form hips. Z3.

5479 Marie Bugnet, $10.00

***R.* Redleaf Rose** 5-7' *R. glauca* (formerly *R. rubrifolia*) Oddly enough, I highly recommend this rose despite the fact that you might not even notice it in bloom. Unlike many ornamentals that are rather nondescript once the flowers are gone, this feathery upright arching spreading shrub is exceptionally beautiful throughout the season. Particularly noteworthy for its ever-present grey-blue (glaucous) coppery reddish-purplish foliage on purple stems. The jazzy single pink and white flowers are bright but not the main attraction. Abundant 1/2" red-purple hips. Disease resistant. Native to central Europe. Z2.

5505 Redleaf, $10.00

***R.* 'Schneekoppe'** 3x3' (Snow Pavement 6446) Baum, Germany, 1986. I was smitten by this rose when I first saw it and was smart enough to buy a plant that day. It's been thriving ever since. Very faint lilac-purple blooms—practically white—but most definitely not so. Some say slightly pink, but I see purple. The light color is soothing to the eyes. Semi-double, recurrent and fragrant. Slowly spreading, suckers here and there. Loose low shrubby form. Red hips. Clean foliage. Disease resistant. Z3.



5529 Schneekoppe, $10.00

***R.* 'William Baffin'** 8-10' L48 [*R. kordesii* Wulff x (Red Dawn x Suzanne)] x open pollinated. Explorer Series, Canada, 1983. Prolific 2-3" semi-double luminous deep pink flowers with bright yellow stamens bloom continuously all summer on upright slightly arching long flexible canes suitable for a tall hedge or arbor. Vigorous and disease resistant. Can be left on trellis all winter in most locations. Glossy foliage. Light fragrance. Small red-orange hips. Z3. **ME Grown.**

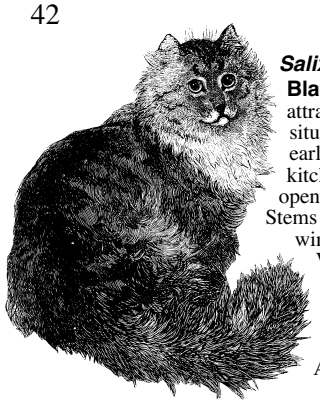
5544 William Baffin, $10.00

Roses prefer full sun (at least 4-6 hrs per day) and a pH of 6.0-7.0. Space them 4-6' apart. They will do well in most well-drained soils with a good amount of organic matter. In locations with poor drainage, add gravel at the bottom of the planting hole, or build in drainage. Pick a site with good air drainage, but avoid sites with cold northwest winds. Avoid competition with tree roots.

Plant roses as early as soil can be worked. Most roses' roots don't spread beyond the original hole, so dig a bushel-basket sized hole, as deep as 2' or more. We recommend a bale of rotten hay in the bottom of the planting hole. Mix soil with well-rotted manure and compost in liberal quantities. Add a coffee-can full of rock phosphate or bone meal.

Soak in water overnight or up to three days before planting. Prior to planting, prune roses back to 3 canes, 4-5" tall. Plant them 1" below the level they were in the nursery. Add water as you fill in the hole to puddle it in. Mound soil around branches to prevent them from drying out, and to encourage buds to sprout. As the buds open, pull back the soil to the correct level.

Shrub roses and climbers will require little pruning in later years. Remove dead or broken branches, and periodically cut out the oldest wood. Keep them well mulched to retain moisture and reduce weeds. Add 2 shovels full of composted manure to each crown late in the fall. For more information see *Growing Old Fashioned Hardy Roses Organically* by Suzanne Verrier in the book section of our Seed Catalog.



***Salix gracilistyla* 'Melanostachys' Black Pussy Willow** 6-10' x same. A very attractive fast-growing plant for wetland situations. Deep purple-black male catkins in early spring, suitable for the dining table or kitchen windowsill. The rather short foliage opens orange and then turns a deep green. Stems assume a rich purple-black color in winter. Very nice dark colors all year. Winner of Royal Horticulture Society Award of Garden Merit. Prune in summer or fall. Full sun, prefers moist soils, pH adaptable but does not like shallow chalky soils. Native to eastern Asia. Z4. **ME Grown.** (6-12" transplants)

5568 Black Pussy Willow, $7.00

***S. integra* Hakura Nishiki Willow** 3-5' x same. Graceful rounded spreading shrub with slender bright pink stems and thin oblong-oval variegated pink, white and green foliage. Some of the leaves are pure translucent white. Others have a tint of pale pink and others are tri-colored. This is a delightful plant for a small space or rock garden. You'll get the best colors in partial shade. Once it's established, prune it to the ground every fall to enhance next year's display. Z4. (12-18" transplants)

5571 Hakura Nishiki Willow, $8.50

***S. purpurea* 'Gracilis' (nana) Blue Leaf Arctic Willow** 3-5 x 3-6' Selection of purple osier willow. Medium-sized spreading rounded shrub with small narrow blue foliage (actually greenish above and blue beneath) and delicately thin long red or green stems. This is the "angel hair" of willows. The graceful thin stems sucker and layer and form a thick and highly attractive ornamental mass. Long cultivated and used for fine-textured basket making. Excellent bank or hedge plant, especially in wet areas but also quite suitable for a highly visible location. If it gets too overgrown, every couple of years cut it to the ground and it'll come right back. Native from Europe to North Africa to Japan. Z3. **ME Grown.** (9-12" transplants)

5577 Blue Leaf Arctic Willow, $8.50

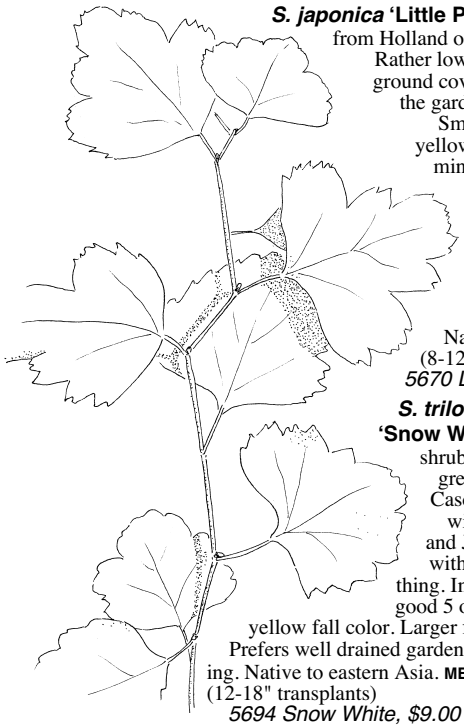
***Sorbaria sorbifolia* Ural False Spirea** 5-10' x same. Fast-growing care-free erect multistemmed fern-like shrub that spreads by suckers and forms colonies. Beautiful lacy white 4-10" flower panicles form on new wood in early to midsummer. Its common name suggests spirea and its botanical name suggests mountain ash. Although the green compound foliage does resemble mountain ash, to me it has a fern-like or sumac-like quality. The arching stems do remind me of some of the more dramatic spireas. Easy to establish and ideal for banks, borders and former lawns. Give it room to move. Full sun or light shade in moist well-drained humusy soil. Prune and cut off old flowers in spring before it begins to grow. Extremely hardy. Native to northeast Asia. Z2. **ME Grown.**
(12-18" transplants)

5596 Ural False Spirea, $8.50

***Spiræa* Spirea** includes nearly 100 species of deciduous shrubs native to the northern hemisphere, all with profuse and often very showy small white, pink or red flowers, arranged in flat or round clusters or in pyramidal spikes. Varying in form and size, spireas are very adaptable, thriving in most soils with a full to partially sunny exposure and average moisture. Two well-known natives are Meadowsweet (*S. latifolia*) and Hardhack (*S. tomentosa*). Spring-flowering species bloom on last season's growth. Prune some of the growth in early spring to increase the flower cluster size. The summer-flowering species bloom on this year's growth and usually require no pruning at all. Each year we offer a few of our favorite spireas, varying our selection annually. Z3.

***S.* 'Goldmound'** 1-2' x 2-3' (*S. japonica* var. alpina x *S. bumalda* 'Goldflame') W.H. Perron introduction, Quebec, Canada 1980. Low mounded bushy form with small outstanding golden-yellow foliage. Holds its yellow color all summer much better than Goldflame. Pink flowers in late June into July. Recommended for perennial and shrub borders. At its best in northern areas. Prefers full sun. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

5643 Goldmound, $9.00



***S. japonica* 'Little Princess'** 2x3' Selection from Holland of *S. japonica* var. alpina. Rather low-growing medium-sized ground cover or specimen suited to the garden wall or shrub border. Small foliage emerges light yellow-green and matures to a mint-green backdrop for the clusters of delicate tiny five-petaled pinkish-white flowers that completely cover the plant in summer. Foliage turns dark red in fall. Generally disease-free. Native of Japan. **ME Grown.** (8-12" transplants)

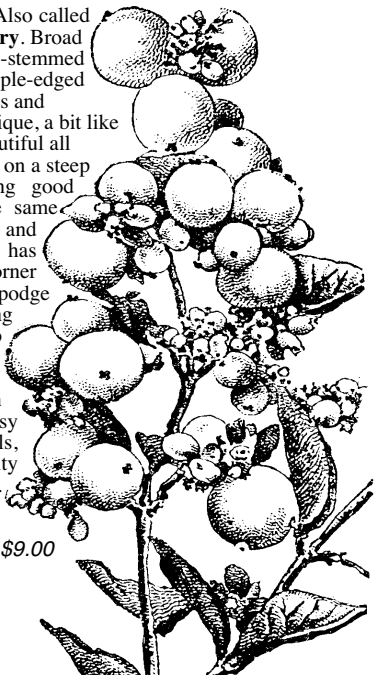
5670 Little Princess, $9.00

***S. trilobata* x *S. trichocarpa* 'Snow White'** 6x6' Wide arching shrub with long graceful light green shoots. Fast growing. Cascading branches covered with white flowers in May and June. Best as a specimen with plenty of room to do its thing. In a border, space plants a good 5 or 6' apart. Good golden-yellow fall color. Larger foliage than Van Houtte. Prefers well drained garden soil. Prune after flowering. Native to eastern Asia. **ME Grown.** (12-18" transplants)

5694 Snow White, $9.00

***Symphoricarpos albus* White Snowberry** 5-6' x same. Also called **Common Snowberry** or **Waxberry**. Broad rounded arching spreading long-stemmed wildlife shrub. Medium-small ripple-edged foliage of muted multi-shaded blues and greens. The edge of each leaf is unique, a bit like Sassafras in that respect. Quite beautiful all summer. Excellent for holding soil on a steep shady moist bank and providing good wildlife cover and forage at the same time. Will spread with age and eventually form colonies. Mine has thrived for years tucked into a corner at the back of the house in a hodgepodge of ferns, raspberries and a looming lilac; it's just now beginning to spread. Inconspicuous pinkish flowers in late spring, followed by plump 1/2" whitish berries which persist until the birds get them. Easy to transplant, adaptable to most soils, sun or shade, even clay and city conditions. Native eastern U.S. south to Virginia. Z3.
(18-24" transplants)

5720 White Snowberry, $9.00



Syringa **Lilac** is known nearly everywhere by some variation of the Persian word *lilak* (meaning 'bluish'), but lilacs actually come in colors ranging from brilliant white to pink to red to every conceivable shade of purple and even blue. From small shrubs to large shrubs and trees, compact vase-shaped specimens to huge rounded spreading masses, only the crabapple offers a greater selection among ornamental woody plants. Twenty-three species make up the genus *Syringa*, two of which are native to the limestone mountains of southeastern Europe, while the rest are native to the temperate Far East. First brought to America nearly four hundred years ago by French Jesuit missionaries, there are ancient specimens on Michigan's Mackinac Islands with trunks nearly two feet in diameter.

Lilacs are excellent alone or in hedges. Deep green glossy heart-shaped foliage looks good from spring through fall. Intensely fragrant blooms in May over a period of several weeks.

As with roses and crabapples, we vary our list each year to give you a wide selection over the course of time. If you have suggestions for cultivars you'd like us to offer, please let us know. The Lyle Littlefield Garden remains the best place in Maine to see lilacs in bloom. If words can't do it for you, go up to Orono next May. Many of the varieties we sell are there. (See #**4912** for Tree Lilac.)

***S.* x *hyacinthiflora* 'Maiden's Blush'** 5-6' x same. (*S. oblata dilatata* x *S. vulgaris*) Frank L. Skinner introduction, Dropmore, Manitoba, Canada, 1966. The famous lilac breeder's last introduction and possibly his most famous. Richly scented single pale pink blossoms bloom before the common (*vulgaris*) lilacs. Roger Luce described the color to me as "the loveliest pink you can get." John Fiala in his classic *Lilacs: The Genus Syringa*, calls Maiden's Blush "exceptionally fine" and "outstanding, excellent!" As pink flowering lilacs tend to produce smaller blooms, Fiala suggests keeping Maiden's Blush (and other pinks) well-pruned to maximize flower size. On the Arnold Arboretum's list of the top twenty lilacs for New England gardens. Hardy most anywhere. Z2. **ME Grown.** (3-4' transplants)

5749 Maiden's Blush, $12.50

***S.* x *hyacinthiflora* 'Pocahontas'** 10-12' x same. Frank L. Skinner intro, Dropmore, Manitoba, Canada, 1935. Skinner's other most famous lilac. Deep maroon-purple buds and profuse single rich deep violet flowers. Large vigorous upright form. Blooms before the common lilacs. Fiala calls it "very fine to excellent" and "very showy." Extremely hardy. Z2. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

5758 Pocohontas, $12.50

***S.* x *hyacinthiflora* 'Sister Justina' Lilac** 8x10' F.L. Skinner intro, Morden, Manitoba, Canada, 1956. Cream-colored buds and wonderfully fragrant single white flowers. Blooms early with the other hyacinthiflora types. Medium-sized rounded arching form. On the Arnold Arboretum's list of the top twenty lilacs for New England gardens and Arnold lilac curator Jack Alexander's favorite early white. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

5763 Sister Justina, $12.50

***S. patula* 'Miss Kim'** 8x8' NH Agricultural Experiment Sta, 1954. Heavily scented extremely prolific small single ice-blue lavender blooms appear after the common types are gone by. Red-purple buds. Small dark green foliage turns dark maroon in fall. Seedling from one of the twelve seeds that New Hampshire plant breeder Elwin Meader collected on a hike in 1947 while stationed in Korea as an Army horticulturist. Very compact rounded form. A year ago, a customer sent us a photo of her Miss Kim and wrote, "Every time I see huge overgrown lilacs I doubly appreciate Miss Kim.…If you look closely at the photo you can see a few of the many, many butterflies that would cover these lilacs, almost like the blooms themselves." On the Arnold list of ten favorite *uncommon* lilacs. Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

5777 Miss Kim, $12.50

***S. vulgaris* Common Purple Lilac** 12-15' x same. A mass of medium-light purple blooms every year. A magnificent New England sight for nearly 400 years. When a nursery friend looked out my living room window and thought I had some fancy new cultivar, I chuckled, "Nope, just the good old common purple." Never a disappointment. Suckers freely, the best lilac for a spreading hedge. Z2. **ME Grown.** (2 year transplants)

5801 Common Purple, $9.50

***S. vulgaris* 'Avalanche'** 8-10' x same. ('Flora' x 'Carley') John Fiala introduction, Falconskeape, Medina, OH, 1983. Very showy heavily fragrant large-flowering single pure white. Mid-season bloomer. Rounded compact shrub with dark green foliage. One of Fiala's (many!) personal favorites. Probably Z3. **ME Grown.** (3-4' transplants)

5817 Avalanche, $12.50

***S. v.* 'Charles Joly'** 10x10' Victor Lemoine et Fils introduction, Nancy, France 1896. Purple buds open into highly fragrant reddish-magenta double flowers on somewhat narrow 4-6" moderately loose panicles. My notes call it a bright rosy-pink-purple. Redder than most of the standard varieties. Narrow upright habit with some suckering. Z3. **ME Grown.** (3-4' transplants)

5825 Charles Joly, $12.50

***S. v.* 'Frank's Fancy'** 10-12' x same. Weston Nursery introduction, Hopkinton, MA, 1991. Very fragrant large single dark purple. Outstanding color. Blooms midseason. Upright growing with dark green foliage. Selected by Ed Mezitt from the Weston nursery seedling blocks in about 1975. Probably Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

5829 Frank's Fancy, $12.50

***S. v.* 'Marie Frances'** 12x8' ('Edward J. Gardner' x 'Rochester') John Fiala intro, Falconskeape, OH, 1983. Small flower clusters of very fragrant single pink. Whitish-pink petals are accented with minute yellow centers. Effect is a faint yellowish-pink. Very nice. Another on the Arnold Arboretum's list of the top twenty lilacs for New England gardens. Midseason bloomer. Probably Z3. **ME Grown.** (2-3' transplants)

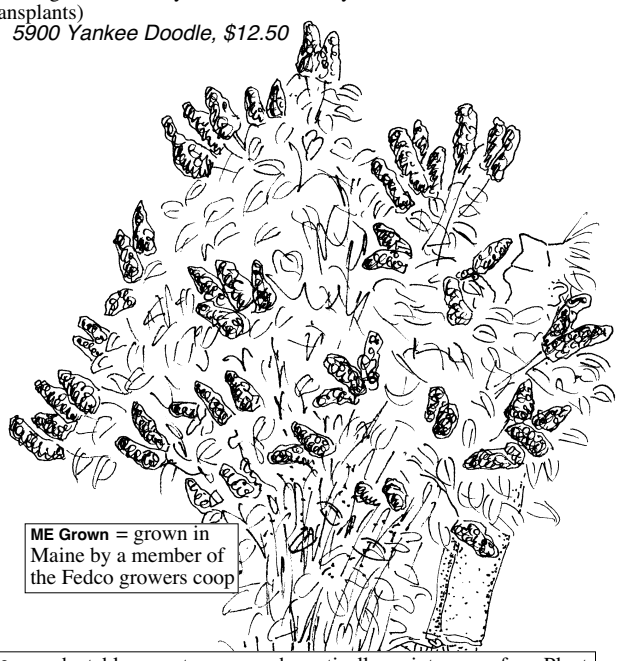
5843 Marie Frances, $12.50

***S. v.* 'Mechta'** N 230. Also called '**Mieczta**' or '**Dream**' 8-10' x same. Leonid Kolesnikov introduction. USSR, 1941. Reddish buds and large single panicles of slightly blue-tinted violet. Extremely showy, heavy flowering dependable mid-season bloomer. On the Arnold Arboretum's list of the top twenty lilacs for New England gardens. Kolesnikov is Russia's most famous lilac breeder. He received the USSR's highest award for horticulture as well as the International Lilac Society's highest award for lilac hybridizing. He created many other exceptional lilacs including one of my favorites, Beauty of Moscow (Krasavitsa Moskvy). Probably Z3. **ME Grown.** (2.5-3' transplants)

5847 Mechta, $12.50

***S. v.* 'Yankee Doodle'** 8x8' ('Prodige' x 'Rochester') John Fiala intro, Falconskeape, OH, 1985. Among the deepest and darkest purple flowers of all lilacs. Michael Dirr calls it *the* deepest and darkest. Large clusters and very fragrant large single florets. Yankee Doodle will provide a stunning contrast with nearly any other cultivar. Upright habit. Another introduction by the leading lilac authority of the 20th century. Z3. **ME Grown.** (3-4' transplants)

5900 Yankee Doodle, $12.50

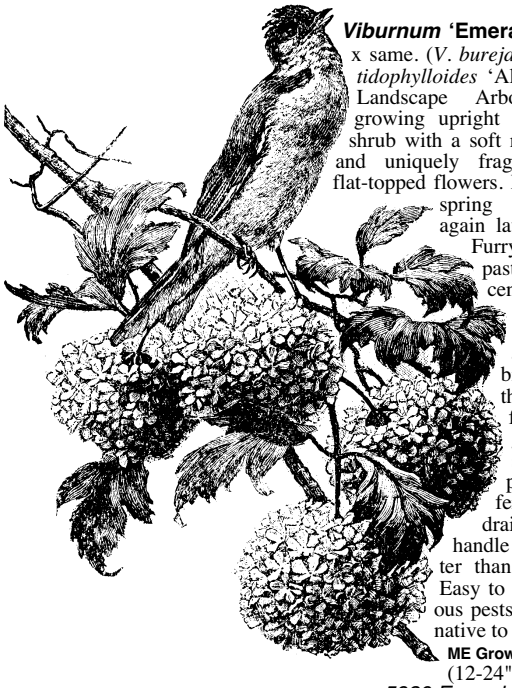


ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Lilacs are adaptable, easy to grow and practically maintenance-free. Plant them in a well-drained location in moderately rich soil. Sandy gravelly loam is perfect. They prefer sun at least two-thirds of the day. We suggest planting them with a shovelful of lime. Add another shovelful of lime every three years. A yearly mulch of manure or compost will encourage spectacular annual blooming.

How to Prune Lilacs

As the plant matures, prune off a quarter of the new suckers and oldest growth, a few main stems each year, and keep them trimmed down to an attractive height. No need to cut off spent flowers, but for best appearance remove flower heads as soon as through blooming, using care not to injure closest pair of leafy branches.



***Viburnum* 'Emerald Triumph'** 5-6' x same. (*V. burejaeticum* x *V.* x *rhytidophylloides* 'Alleghany') U Minn Landscape Arboretum. A fast-growing upright slightly spreading shrub with a soft magical appearance and uniquely fragrant creamy-white flat-topped flowers. Blooms first in late spring and then blooms again later in the summer. Furry foliage and soft pastel-colored pubescent stems. Considered an excellent source of butterfly and bee forage. The birds will clean up the black fruit in the fall. Excellent in groupings or as a specimen. Sun or partial shade. Prefers decent well-drained soils but can handle dry conditions better than other Viburnums. Easy to transplant. No serious pests or disease. Parents native to China. Z4. **ME Grown.** (12-24" transplants)

5930 Emerald Triumph, $10.00

***V. opulus* 'Roseum' Common Snowball Viburnum, Guelder Rose or European Snowball** 10-12' x same. Extremely showy large double snowball-like white flowers covering the vigorous shrub in spring remind you how glad you are that winter is really over. Bears profusely enough to have one heck of a snowball fight. Large coarse old-fashioned rounded habit, popular in Maine for generations and in Europe for over 400 years. Dark green three-lobed maple-like foliage. Plenty of bright red berries for the birds. Excellent in borders. Easy to grow. Adaptable to a wide range of soils but is happy in wet and even boggy spots. Flowers best in full sun. Susceptible to viburnum leaf beetle. Native to Europe, North Africa and northern Asia. **ME Grown.** (2 year transplants)

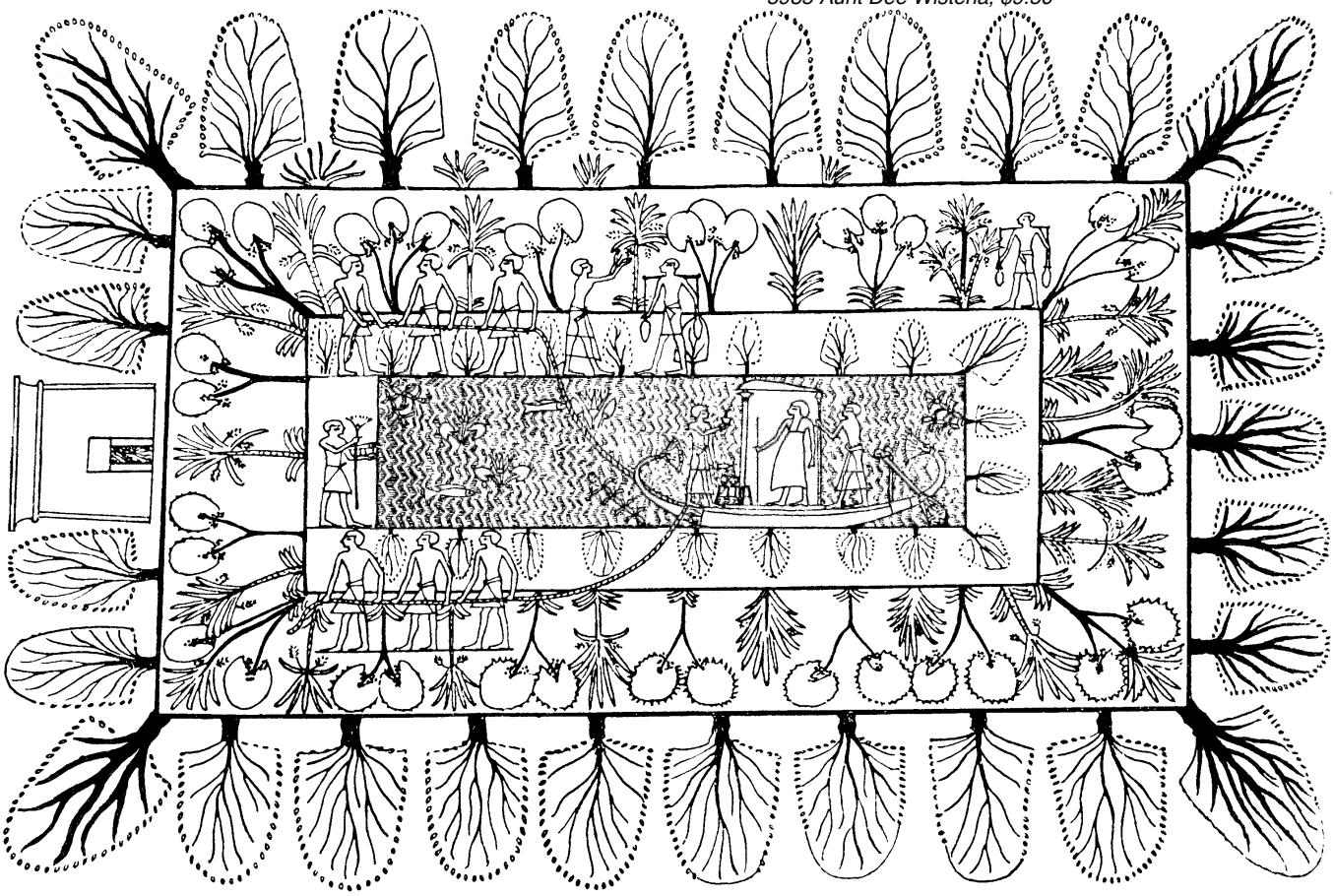
5940 Roseum Snowball, $10.00

***Weigela florida* 'Java Red' Weigela** 3-4' x 4-5' Each year we offer a different cultivar of the old-fashioned weigela that has been a New England "regular" for generations. One of my favorites is the old disheveled specimen up at the end of the road. I'm dying to stop in one of these days and prune out the dead wood. Do you think they'd mind? Java Red has a more compact rounded form. Its flower buds are red, opening to dark pink blossoms in late spring and early summer. Rich deep green foliage flushed with red remains quite attractive all summer. Plant it where you walk by every day. Excellent in masses or as a specimen. Prefers full sun and well-drained soils but is quite adaptable. Pollution tolerant. Native to eastern Asia. Z4. (12-18" transplants)

5962 Java Red Weigela, $8.00

***Wisteria macrostachya* 'Aunt Dee' Wisteria** up to 50' (Species also called **Kentucky Wisteria**.) Magnificent twining vine with pinnate leaves for pillars, trellises, arbors, walls, even trees. Long 12" racemes of lilac-purple lightly fragrant flowers in late spring or early summer look almost like bunches of lavender grapes hanging from an arbor. Bean-like smooth green seed pods to 4" long. Prefers full sun in moderately fertile, well-drained soil. May need protection in Zone 4 but has even been known to flower in Zone 3. Native of southeastern U.S. (2yr medium vines)

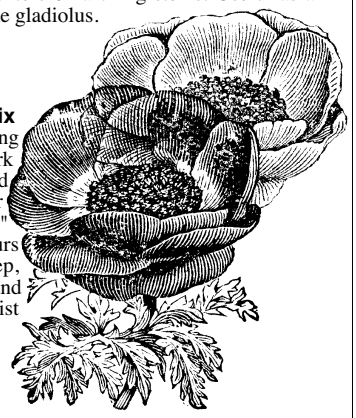
5985 Aunt Dee Wisteria, $9.50



Tender Summer Bulbs are like fall-planted bulbs in that they give you an impressive display for comparatively little effort. Bulbs, corms and tubers store their energy which needs only some earth, moisture and sun to be released. They are not hardy in our climate. Energetic people lift and store them over the winter (details in the sidebar); the rest of us treat them as annuals. Each selection is offered in three different quantities; note the different item number for each package size.

Acidanthera murielæ **Fragrant Gladiolus** or **Ethiopian Gladiolus** produces sword-like foliage topped by wonderfully scented star-shaped 2" white flowers with mahogany-purple centers on arching stems. Useful as a garden or cutflower. 24" tall. Culture like gladiolus.

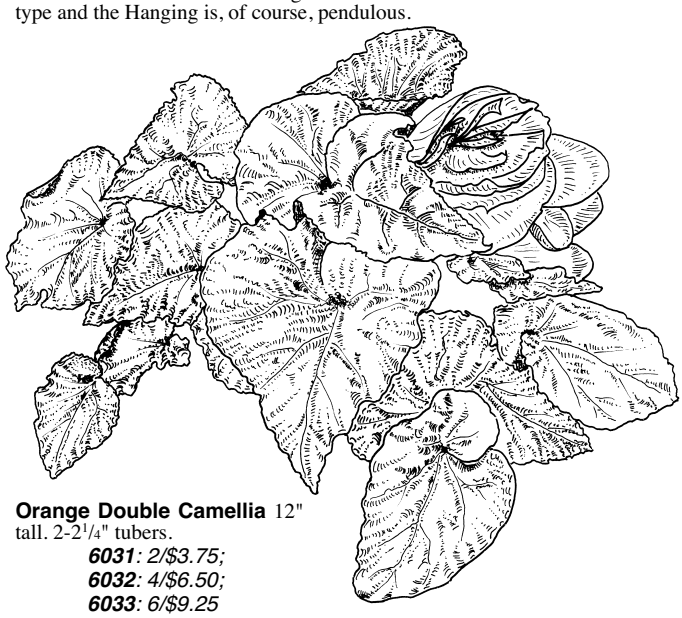
6011*: 10/$2.65;*
6012*: 20/$4.60;*
6013*: 50/$10.80*



Anemone coronaria **De Caen mix Anemone** or **Windflower** Charming single flowers 1-3" wide are dark purple-blue, red, rose or white and appear in early summer. Good for borders, containers and for cutting. 8-10" tall. Soak knobby tubers in water 24 hours before early-spring planting 1-2" deep, 4-8" apart. Anemones enjoy full sun and light sandy soil but must be kept moist during the growing season.

6021*: 10/$2.80;*
6022*: 20/$4.80;*
6023*: 50/$10.90*

Begonia **x** ***tuberhybrida*** **Tuberous Begonia** Lush textures, intense colors and a tropical aura make this tender temperamental plant well worth cultivating. Velvety flowers bloom all summer, drooping languidly amidst red-tinted foliage. Excellent bedding or container plants. Best in a cool spot with lots of indirect sunlight and air circulation. Moist but not soggy fertile soil. I discovered during our very wet May last year that they *love* moisture. Now I drench mine every day, feed heavily and stand back to ooh and ah! Plant outside, concave side up, 1/2-1" deep and 12-15" apart when night temperatures rise above 50˚ or, for a longer season, start indoors and plant out later. Pinch back to encourage more blooms. The Camellia is Multiflora type and the Hanging is, of course, pendulous.



Orange Double Camellia 12" tall. 2-2 1/4" tubers.

6031*: 2/$3.75;*
6032*: 4/$6.50;*
6033*: 6/$9.25*

Scarlet Double Camellia 12" tall. 2-2 1/4" tubers.

6041*: 2/$3.75;*
6042*: 4/$6.50;*
6043*: 6/$9.25*

Yellow Double Camellia 12" tall. 2-2 1/4" tubers.

6051*: 2/$3.75;*
6052*: 4/$6.50;*
6053*: 6/$9.25*

Scarlet Hanging Basket 2-3' long. 1 1/2-2" tubers.

6061*: 2/$3.50;*
6062*: 4/$5.90;*
6063*: 6/$8.50*

Picotee 'Rosebud' white outlined with dark pink. 12" tall. 1 1/2-2" tubers.

6071*: 2/$3.50;* ***6072****: 4/$6.00;* ***6073****: 6/$8.90*

Crocosmia **x** ***crocosmiiflora***

'Lucifer' glows in the garden or makes a long-lasting cutflower. Midsummer sprays of bright red flowers opening from bottom to top on curving flower stalks look like bursts of flame above their gladiolus-like foliage. "Lucifer" means "light-bearing" and refers to the blossoms looking like lighted matches. Grows well in pots. 24-36" tall. Plant 3" deep, 3" apart in moist, well-drained soil.

6081*: 5/$3.50;*
6082*: 15/$9.75;*
6083*: 30/$19.00*

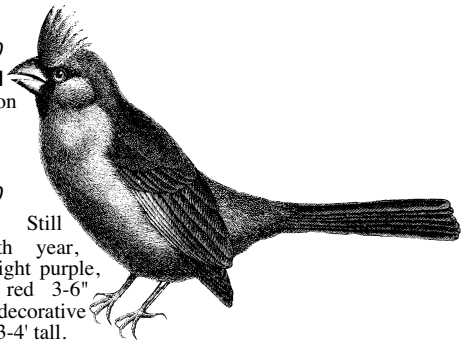
Dahlia Bushy bedding plant and prolific cutflower producer blooms from midsummer until frost. Native to hot parts of the Americas and first developed as a food crop, ornamental dahlias are descended from years of breeding and hybridizing *D. pinnata* and *D. juarezi*. Earl Waterman grew all this year's stock at Roadtown Dahlia Patch in Shutesbury, MA. These are large tubers.

D. **Candy Cane** Red 4" flowers have white-tipped petals. Compact plants are 2-3' tall.

6091*: 1/$2.90;*
6092*: 3/$7.50;*
6093*: 6/$14.00*

D. **Peter's Purple** Tall 4' bushy plants with 5" light purple flowers, good as specimens and has long straight stems for cuts. "Spectacular, impressive eye-bender," says our modest grower.

6101*: 1/$2.90;*
6102*: 3/$7.50;*
6103*: 6/$14.00*

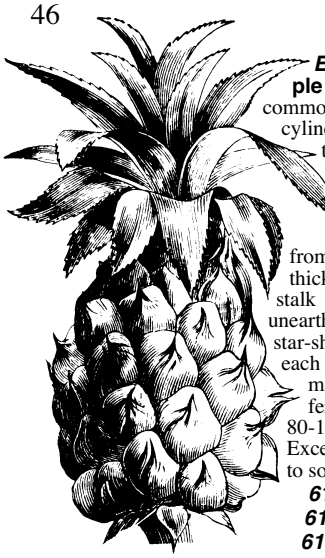


D. **Red Cardinal** Bright red 3" flowers on tall 4' bushy plants.

6111*: 1/$2.90;*
6112*: 3/$7.50;*
6113*: 6/$13.90*

D. **Earl's Tall Mix** Still popular in its eighth year, includes pink, yellow, light purple, white, red and dark red 3-6" flowers, pompon and decorative (standard) styles. Plants 3-4' tall.

6121*: 2/$4.70;*
6122*: 4/$8.20;*
6123*: 8/$15.50*



***Eucomis bicolor* Pineapple Lily** Novel cultivar whose common name comes from its cylindrical arrangement of flowers topped by green leafy bracts sprouting from the top of the stem above the flower. Shiny strap-like leaves stand up from a rosette from which a thick erect maroon-flecked stalk emerges and bears an unearthly flower cluster. Numerous pendant star-shaped blossoms along 6" of the stalk are each greenish yellow outlined in maroon-purple. Plant bulbs 6" deep in fertile well-drained soil, full sun. Blooms 80-100 days after planting: late summer. Excellent for containers. 12-15" tall. Native to southern Africa. Bulbs are 14 cm and up.

***6131**: 1/$2.90;*
***6132**: 3/$6.25;*
***6133**: 6/$11.75*

***Gladiolus* Sword Lily** is a showy summer bloomer and excels as a cutflower. Each 36" tall stalk is covered with 10 or more open funnel-shaped flowers that bloom from bottom to top. Named for the their sword-like leaves; a *gladiolus* was a small Roman sword. Gladiolus bulbs are 1 1/2" and up.

***G.* 'Espresso'** dark rich red-brown.
***6141**: 10/$2.85;*
***6142**: 20/$4.90;*
***6143**: 50/$11.50*

G. 'High Style' deep rose-pink, white throat.
***6151**: 10/$2.85;*
***6152**: 20/$4.90;*
***6153**: 50/$11.50*

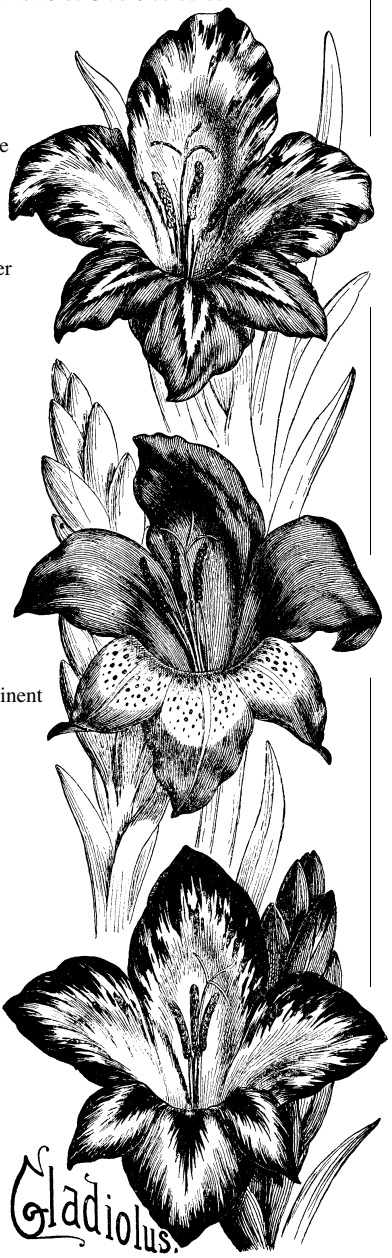
***G.* 'Laurien'** violet-blue with lavender highlights.
***6161**: 10/$2.85;*
***6162**: 20/$4.90;*
***6163**: 50/$11.50*

***G.* 'Oscar'** intense solid crimson.
***6171**: 10/$2.85;*
***6172**: 20/$4.90;*
***6173**: 50/$11.50*

***G.* 'Video'** light lavender.
***6181**: 10/$2.85;*
***6182**: 20/$4.90;*
***6183**: 50/$11.50*

***G.* 'Wigs Sensation'** dark orange.
***6191**: 10/$2.85;*
***6192**: 20/$4.90;*
***6193**: 50/$11.50*

Large-Flowering Glad Mix
***6211**: 10/$2.50;*
***6212**: 20/$4.50;*
***6213**: 50/$10.50*



Nanus Glad Mix miniature, mixed colors, many bicolors, 24" tall. I was going to drop these until my first one bloomed. They're darling! Very satisfying clumped in a bed or as cuts. Some suppliers offer these as Hardy Glads, said to be hardy in Zone 5. I promise not to dig mine up and to report back next year.

***6221**: 10/$3.50;*
***6222**: 20/$6.50;*
***6223**: 50/$15.00*

***Tigridia pavonia* Tiger Flower Mix** Neat looking triangular 5-6" flowers consist of three big petals, flat in vivid solid colors on the outer half, which join three smaller petals to form a cup-shaped center. The inside of the cup has dark mottled markings resembling those of a jaguar, the "tiger" of the name. Plant in full sun, very well-drained soil, keep moist. Blooms in August on stalks 2-3' tall with glad-type foliage about 20" tall.

***6231**: 5/$1.80;*
***6232**: 15/$3.70;*
***6233**: 30/$6.50*

Tender Summer Bulbs
In our climate, these tender spring-planted summer-blooming bulbs, corms and tubers will not survive the winter outdoors. You may dig them up in the fall after foliage dies, dry them and gently brush off soil and debris, store somewhere dark and cool (40-50˚) for the winter in a medium like dry peat or sawdust, and then replant in spring. Or grow them in pots and relocate as the weather dictates. Or treat them as annuals and compost them at the end of the season.

Dahlia Needs 3-4 hours per day of direct sun, tolerant of full sun to light shade. Plant 3-4" deep, 12-24" apart. Conventional wisdom says to plant after danger of frost is past, but our grower in Massachusetts plants his the same time as his peas, and stresses the importance of early planting, saying they recover in the rare event that the first foliage is killed by frost. Dahlias often need staking, but close plantings can support each other. Dahlia blooms are susceptible to insect damage, especially in the bud stage. Tarnish plant bugs, leaf hoppers and thrips are all suspect. Think out a control program ahead of time. Keeping the flowers picked keeps some pests down.

Gladiolus Each stalk blooms for about a week, about 8 weeks after planting. Stagger plantings for flowers from summer to frost. Cut when 2-3 flowers have opened, taking care to spare the leaves which feed the developing corm. Plant corms 4-6" deep and 6" apart after the last spring frost. Hilling or staking may be needed if their sword-shaped foliage and 3-4' flower spikes get top heavy. Dig up the corms after the tops have died, discard the old one, clean the new one, dry, and store loose (no peat) in a cool dry place.

Thrips are a problem for glads, and infestations—indicated by yellowing and spotted foliage—are aggravated by water stress. Be prepared lest they devastate your plants and prevent flowering. Research a control program acceptable to you (possibilities include insecticidal soap, garlic, pyrethrum, or rotenone), have it on hand, and use it at the first sign of infestation.

Herbaceous Perennial Plants

Most of the perennial plants we offer are hardy at least into Zone 4. USDA hardiness zone (chart on page 3) follows each description. The list is alphabetized by botanical names, in italics, followed by common names. Each selection is offered in three different quantities; note the different item number for each package size.

Aconitum napellus **English Monkshood** or **Friar's Cap** produces dense showy spikes of deep violet-blue helmet-shaped flowers above elegant palmate foliage in late summer. Plant in a partially shaded, cool and moist location for longest-lasting flowers. An excellent cutflower—cut when 1/3 to 1/2 the spike is in bloom. Grand delphinium-style blooms rarely need staking. I love watching bumble bees climb under the hood and completely disappear into the flowers then clamber back out again covered with pollen. The entire plant is poisonous; wash your hands after handling or cutting. 36-40" tall. Plant 15-20" apart in moist soil. Z3.

***6241**: 1/$2.90;*
***6242**: 3/$7.50;*
***6243**: 6/$13.50*

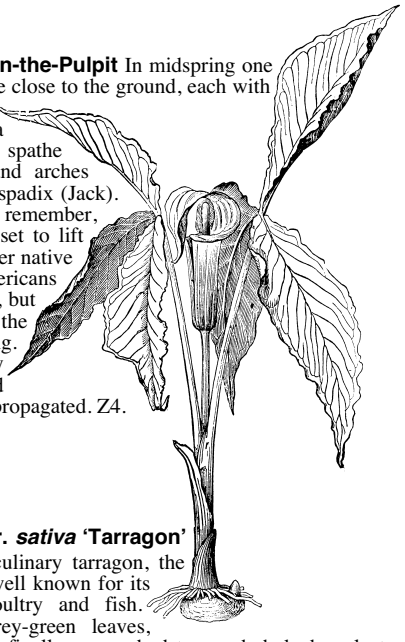
Alcea rosea **'Peaches 'n' Dreams' Hollyhock** Farmhouse and cottage gardens staples for centuries, their self-sown tall flower stalks welcome in many settings. Some terms for the uninitiated: **Single** flowers have, yes, a single row of petals around their centers. **Doubles** have *many* rows of petals; fully double means totally filled with petals. The hollyhocks we see most often in the countryside are singles in mixed colors, usually countless shades of pink (rosea).

This year's dreamy offering is a recent introduction, fully double and a creamy peach color tinged with pink on 4-6' tall spires loaded with big round flowers for extended bloom through July and August. Officially perennial, they can be short-lived, and are best cultivated as a biennials which readily self-sow once established in favorable conditions. Like full sun, moderate fertility. May need wind protection or staking. Plant 12-18" apart in moist well-drained soil. This year's stock is 3" pot size. Z3.

***6251**: 1/$3.50;*
***6252**: 3/$8.90;*
***6253**: 6/$16.50*

Arisaema triphyllum **Jack-in-the-Pulpit** In midspring one or two compound leaves emerge close to the ground, each with three leaflets framing an upright stem topped by a tannish-purple 3" long cuplike spathe (the pulpit) which contains and arches over the erect greenish-yellow spadix (Jack). It's a great pleasure, one I still remember, for the two- or three-year-old set to lift the flap and see Jack. Wildflower native to the eastern U.S. Native Americans used the dried root medicinally, but calcium oxalate crystals in the fresh plant are intensely irritating. Easy to grow in moist woodsy soil with plenty of humus and shade. About 12" tall. Nursery propagated. Z4.

***6261**: 1/$2.90;*
***6262**: 3/$7.50;*
***6263**: 6/$13.75*



Artemisia dracunculus **var.** ***sativa*** **'Tarragon' French Tarragon** really is culinary tarragon, the flavoring with a hint of anise well known for its use with vinegar, salads, poultry and fish. Bushy, with long narrow grey-green leaves, looks like a small shrub. Mine finally succumbed to weed-choked neglect after providing years of trouble-free performance and culinary pizzazz. I'll replace it. 18-40" tall. Easy to grow, especially in poor dry soil, full sun. Needs good drainage and some use a winter mulch. Z4.

***6271**: 1/$4.00;*
***6272**: 3/$10.50;*
***6273**: 6/$18.00*

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

Aster **Starwort** or **Frost Flower** are familiar summer and fall wildflowers throughout the nation. These varieties are selected for outstanding color and form but are still robust and easy to grow. Flowers provide great displays in fall, attract butterflies and beneficial insects, and last long in the vase. Deer don't usually eat them. Plant singly, group in the border, or naturalize in meadows or on banks. Cut back slightly in early-mid June to induce an abundance of 1 1/2-2" rayed blooms from late August into October. Asters are at their peak when most plants have faded. Plant 12-18" apart in light moist humusy soil in full sun with good air circulation. Z4.

A. dumosis **'Professor Anton Kippenburg'** clear bright blue, 12-15" tall.

***6281**: 1/$3.25;*
***6282**: 3/$8.50;*
***6283**: 6/$16.00*

A. novae-angliae **'Alma Potschke'** Surprising wonderful intense salmon-rose. One of my favorites. 30-36" tall.

***6291**: 1/$3.50;*
***6292**: 3/$9.00;*
***6293**: 6/$17.50*

A. n.-a. **'Purple Dome'** Deep purple flowers with an excellent compact habit. 18".

***6301**: 1/$3.00;*
***6302**: 3/$8.50;*
***6303**: 6/$16.50*

Astilbe **Feather Flower** or **False Spirea** lends a novel touch to the border and is easy to grow, hardy and long-lived. Long-lasting plumy feathery flowers are good for drying and provide an interesting contrast to more ordinary petaled blossoms. Elegant fern-like foliage forms an attractive clump all season and comes in a wide range of sizes and shades. Convention holds Astilbe to be a partial-shade plant that absolutely requires a moist humusy acid soil when grown in full sun. That's true in warmer areas, but in central Maine it seems to tolerate full sun in a wide range of conditions. Blooms July and August. Stock has 2-3 "eyes." Plant 12-18" apart and divide clumps every few years.

A. arendsii **'Fanal'** Dark red flowers are the earliest red to bloom. Foliage mahogany-red in spring, dark green in summer. Early-mid season, 18-24" tall.

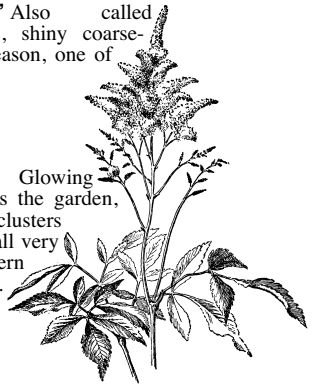
***6311**: 1/$2.90;*
***6312**: 3/$7.50;*
***6313**: 6/$13.80*

A. chinensis **'Purple Candles'** Also called ***Purpurkerze***. Purple-red narrow plumes, shiny coarse-textured dark green foliage. Very late season, one of the tallest, 36-42".

***6321**: 1/$2.90;*
***6322**: 3/$7.50;*
***6323**: 6/$13.80*

A. simplicifolia **'Hennie Graafland'** Glowing rose-pink flowers catch one's eye across the garden, described as "unnaturally bright." Tight clusters loosen after a while. Finely cut shiny small very dark bronze-green foliage "looks like a fern bed" after the spent blooms are cut. Mid-late season. 16" tall. Z4.

***6331**: 1/$2.90;*
***6332**: 3/$7.50;*
***6333**: 6/$13.50*



Bare-Root Perennial Stock

Treat bare-root perennials like tender annuals for their first growing season, when they typically focus on root growth. Once established, usually in the second year, they are vigorous and floriferous.

When you receive your order, open the bags and check the stock immediately. Roots and crowns should be firm and pliable, not soft or brittle. If they are slightly dry, add a little water or, if they are going to be potted up soon, soak the roots. Generally, a little surface mold is harmless and will not affect the plant's future performance. If you cannot pot them up immediately, store them in a cool (35-40°) location for a short time.

Pot up the roots in well-drained potting mix. Most plants need a deep 6" pot or a 1-gallon container. Avoid coiling the roots in the bottom of undersized containers. Grow newly potted perennials for a few weeks in a protected location in indirect light at 50-60° and keep them from freezing. Wet and/or cold conditions for an extended period may cause rotting. Begin feeding when new growth appears. Keep dry fertilizers away from plant crowns. Animal manures should be used with caution as they can promote fungal and bacterial diseases.

Transplant out after danger of frost, once they show some top growth. Dig a hole about twice the size of the pot, loosening the surrounding soil and adding compost or fertilizers as necessary. Generally, plant the top of the crown just below ground level, less than an inch from the surface of the soil.

Nearly all perennials appreciate a fall mulch and a sidedressing of compost or leaf mold in the spring.

Bergenia cordifolia **Pigsqueak** The great 19th century English gardener Gertrude Jekyll, always seeking interesting textures and subtle color combinations, developed the use of Bergenia for her perennial borders and gardeners have been following her capable lead ever since. Grown mostly as a foliage accent with showy flowers in early spring, its clump of glossy leathery rounded green leaves reminds me of tender fibrous begonias, but Bergenia is so hardy that the leaves are evergreen in warmer climes and very long-lasting in ours. Many small pink flowers on red stalks in spring. Plant in humus-rich moist well-drained soil, full sun to part shade, 6-8" apart. 12-15" tall. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***6341**: 1/$3.25;*
***6342**: 3/$8.50;*
***6343**: 6/$16.00*

Caltha palustris Marsh Marigold Also called **Cowslip** or **Kingcup**. Ever see a clump of big buttercup-like flowers blooming in the middle of a bog in very early spring? Probably marsh marigold. Variable in size and habit with glossy dark green toothed heart-shaped leaves and covered with waxy single bright yellow flowers up to 2" across. Moisture-loving, grows in rich boggy soil, water's edges or shallow water. Full sun. A powerful plant: native Americans used it as an emetic, diuretic and diaphoretic. Some books say that people eat the leaves and flowerbuds, others indicate that it is rather poisonous, as one might guess from the medicinal uses. All parts of the plant may irritate the skin. Nursery-propagated native wildflower. 8-24" tall.

***6351**: 1/$2.90;*
***6352**: 3/$7.50;*
***6353**: 6/$13.50*

Campanula glomerata **'Joan Elliott' Clustered Bellflower** A *campana* is a bell and *campanula* is its diminutive (and a campanile is a bell tower, usually free-standing, but the irrelevancy alarm is sounding…). This bellflower is called clustered because the bell-shaped flowers form a cluster at the end of the stem. The bells are so open that they have fetchingly starry faces and they're beautiful deep violet-blue against dark green foliage. Plants form wide clumps with erect stiff stems and make excellent cutflowers. Blooms early- through midsummer, cut back after flowering to encourage a second flush of blossoms. Sun to part-shade, moist to wet soils. Plant 8-12" apart. 15-18" tall. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***6361**: 1/$3.90;*
***6362**: 3/$10.00;*
***6363**: 6/$18.00*

Cimicifuga ramosa **'Atropurpurea' Bugbane** I first noticed this cultivar in a posh Bar Harbor garden, but I've had my own for several years now and it has proven wonderfully resilient. Green tri-pinnate foliage with a purple cast, something like an Astilbe, forms a tall erect clump over which beautiful arching mauve-purple stems tower. The whole astounding arrangement reaches 4-8' tall. My favorite time is when the stems are lined with purple-brown squat button-like buds slowly swelling for 3-4 weeks in August. Blooms in September with lushly fragrant creamy-white bottlebrush flowers. Plant 2-3' apart in moist fertile humus-rich soil, partial shade. Don't confuse with medicinal Black Cohosh, *C. racemosa*, which we list in Medicinals Section, #**7061**. Z3.

***6371**: 1/$5.50;*
***6372**: 2/$9.50;*
***6373**: 3/$13.50*

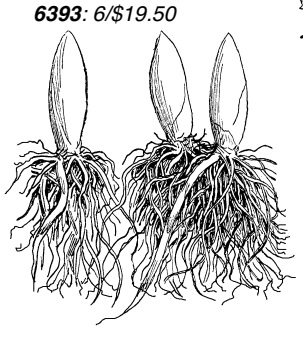
Convallaria majalis **Lily of the Valley** is a hardy bedding or border plant and an excellent ground cover, even for dry shade. Perennial favorite and a top-seller for all 19 years that we've listed it. Easy to grow under any conditions, prefers partial to full shade. Produces long stems of bell-shaped fragrant flowers in late spring-early summer, followed by small orange berries. Intense fragrance and delicate shape add welcome notes to bouquets. This year we are listing both the beloved ordinary white one and a coveted pricy pink variety. Plant pips 2" deep, 3-5" apart in rich moist soil. 6-8" tall. Z2.

C. m. white.

***6381**: 5/$3.25;*
***6382**: 10/$5.50;*
***6383**: 25/$12.50*

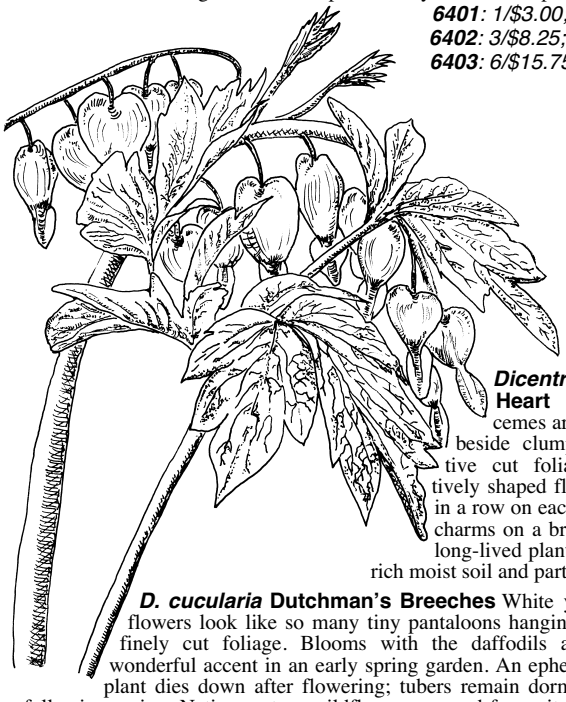
C. m. 'Rosea' pink.

***6391**: 1/$4.25;*
***6392**: 3/$11.00;*
***6393**: 6/$19.50*



Delphinium **'Magic Fountains' Delphinium** is a popular variety for small gardens. No staking needed for these sturdy early summer 28-36" spikes densely covered in flowers. The Magic Fountain series is long-lived and easier to grow than the big delphiniums. My blue one is over 4 years old now and made a show last summer that rivaled the big ones for profusion of lavish flowers. Mix includes white, pink, lavender, lilac, sky blue and dark blue. Sidedress lightly early, mid and late spring for best show. Cut spent flowerstalks for fall rebloom. Plant 12-24" apart in highly fertile non-acid loam in full sun or light shade. Our plants this year are in 3" plugs. Z3.

***6401**: 1/$3.00;*
***6402**: 3/$8.25;*
***6403**: 6/$15.75*



Dicentra **Bleeding Heart** Graceful racemes arch above and beside clumps of attractive cut foliage. Distinctively shaped flowers dangle in a row on each raceme like charms on a bracelet. Hardy long-lived plant when it gets rich moist soil and partial shade. Z3.

D. cucularia **Dutchman's Breeches** White yellow-tipped flowers look like so many tiny pantaloons hanging above very finely cut foliage. Blooms with the daffodils and makes a wonderful accent in an early spring garden. An ephemeral: whole plant dies down after flowering; tubers remain dormant until the following spring. Native eastern wildflower, rescued from sites about to be developed and nursery propagated. 8-12" tall.

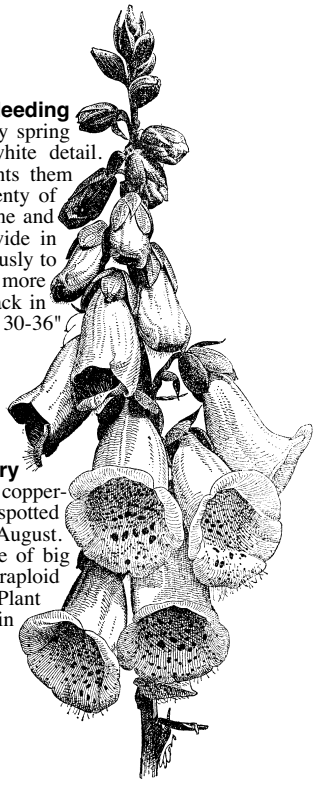
***6411**: 1/$2.90;*
***6412**: 3/$7.50;*
***6413**: 6/$14.25*

D. formosa **'Luxuriant' Western Bleeding Heart** Blooms all summer and tolerates heat and drought better than any other *Dicentra*. Cherry red flowers defy the elements as they dangle above lush finely-cut light green foliage which is pretty as a fern's. Excellent border plant with spreading habit, 12-15" tall.

***6421**: 1/$4.00;*
***6422**: 3/$10.00;*
***6423**: 6/$18.50*

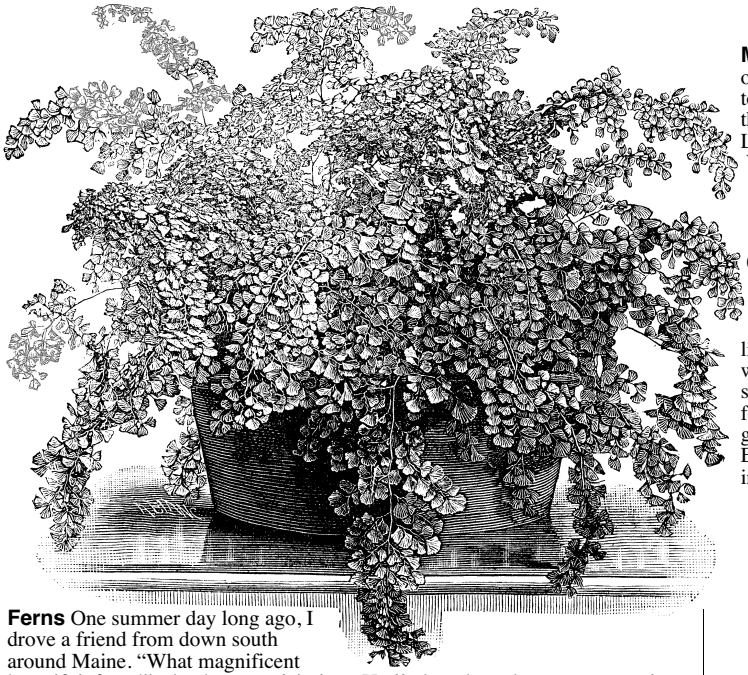
D. spectabilis **Old-Fashioned Bleeding Heart** Old garden favorite delights every spring with pink heart-shaped flowers with white detail. Blooms with late tulips and complements them well. Also useful for cutting. Prefers plenty of room to bush out. Mine surprised both me and its neighbors when it became over 6' wide in two years. I moved it rather unceremoniously to a less hospitable spot and it has been more restrained ever since. Foliage may die back in summer heat. Plant 2-4" deep, 24" apart. 30-36" tall. Our stock has 2-3 eyes. Z3.

***6431**: 1/$3.00;*
***6432**: 3/$7.80;*
***6433**: 6/$14.00*



Digitalis **X** ***mertonensis*** **Strawberry Foxglove** Pendulous 2½" bell-shaped copper-tinged strawberry-rose flowers with spotted throats dangle along 3-4' spires June till August. Good for cutting or border. Basal rosette of big velvety leaves. Large true-breeding tetraploid hybrid needs dividing every 3 years. Plant 24-36" apart in moist slightly acid soil in full sun to partial shade. Z4.

***6441**: 1/$3.90;*
***6442**: 3/$10.00;*
***6443**: 6/$19.00*



Ferns One summer day long ago, I drove a friend from down south around Maine. "What magnificent beautiful ferns!" she kept exclaiming. Until that day, they were merely plants on the side of the road to me. Since then I've always noticed what lush roadside fern displays we enjoy in Maine several months of the year.

Ferns are flowerless spore-producing perennials represented by over 10,000 species worldwide, ranging from 70' tropical tree ferns to teeny plants sprouting from cracks in alpine rock. Several make wonderful low-maintenance foliage plants that thrive in moist woodsy humus-rich soil and lend a serene aura to a shady garden or landscape. Mulch if necessary to keep crowns from drying out.

Christmas Fern *Polystichum acrostichoides* remains evergreen in warmer zones, widely used for Christmas cut greenery. Shuttlecock of fronds with ladder-like parallel leathery dark green leaves is partially evergreen in our climate and provides good fall interest and emerges in very early spring to combine well with woodland flowers. Moist acidic soil, light shade, tolerates sun with sufficient moisture. Plant 2-3' apart. 18-24" tall. Northeastern native. Z3.

***6451**: 1/$3.00;*
***6452**: 3/$7.00;*
***6453**: 6/$13.50*

Hay-Scented Fern *Dennstaedtia punctilobula* Flourishes in bright shade in dry woodlands, even in sun on rocky slopes, stony fields. Spreads easily with creeping rhizomes from which a single frond sprouts every few inches, forming large colonies, often in poor soil. Delicate ferny foliage is yellow-green and has hairy surfaces which give it a soft nonreflective quality. Smells like (you guessed it) hay when crushed or dried. Makes an excellent ground cover for a troublesome spot, but can be invasive so be mindful where you locate it. Native to eastern N. America. 18-32" tall. Z3.

***6461**: 1/$3.00;*
***6462**: 3/$7.00;*
***6463**: 6/$13.50*

Japanese Painted Fern *Athyrium niponicum* 'Pictum' is the most decorative fern I know and surprisingly rugged for such a fancy plant. The Perennial Plant Association's Plant of the Year for 2004. Soft grey-green background with purplish wine-red stems and markings, accented by silvery-grey highlights. Needs partial shade, moist soil. Deciduous. 8-18" tall with spreading habit. Plant 8-12" apart. Z3.

***6471**: 1/$5.00; **6472**: 2/$9.00; **6473**: 3/$12.50*

Lady Fern *Athyrium filix-femina* tolerates more sun and drier soil than most ferns. Spreads easily from falling spores in moist soil. Works as a foundation planting on the shady sides of my house. Graceful bright green fronds are twice compound with very numerous leaflets resulting in a fine-textured classic fern appearance. Many variant forms, a few taller than 4' but most are under 2'. Z3.

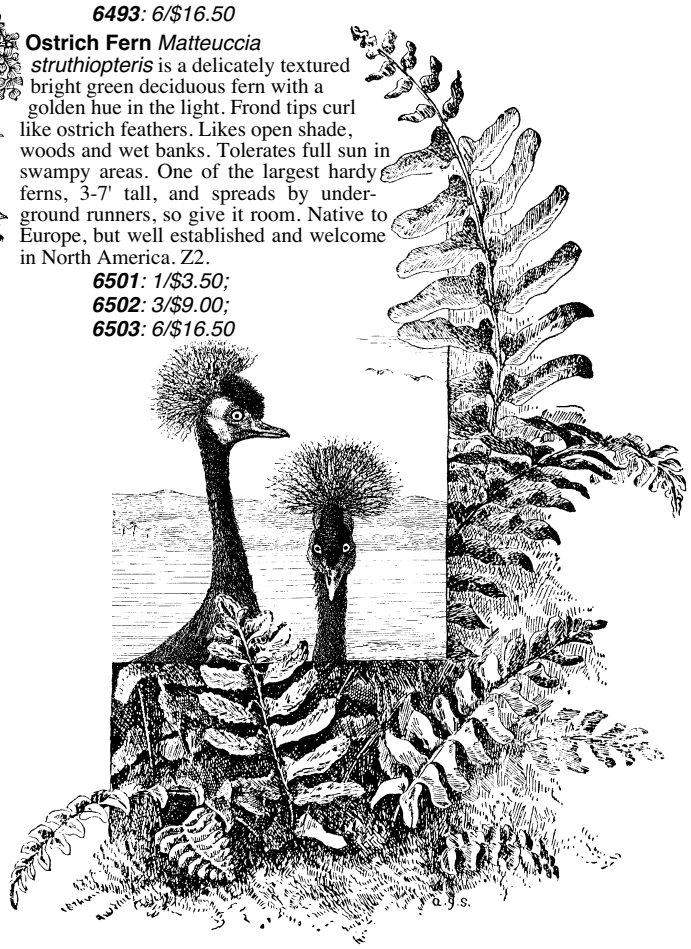
***6481**: 1/$3.00; **6482**: 3/$7.00; **6483**: 6/$13.00*

Maidenhair Fern *Adiantum pedatum* Delicate whorled form makes it one of my favorite ferns. Glossy black stems curve up and then droop toward the ground with more narrow black stems growing in arches from them. Tiny distinct ginkgo-like green leaves line every stem. Plant 12" apart. Likes semi-shade or shade, moist soils. Native to eastern North America. Very hardy. Z2.

***6491**: 1/$3.50;*
***6492**: 3/$9.00;*
***6493**: 6/$16.50*

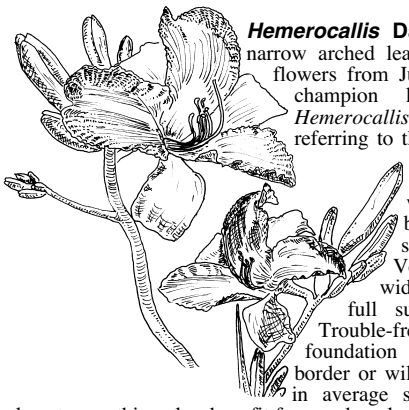
Ostrich Fern *Matteuccia struthiopteris* is a delicately textured bright green deciduous fern with a golden hue in the light. Frond tips curl like ostrich feathers. Likes open shade, woods and wet banks. Tolerates full sun in swampy areas. One of the largest hardy ferns, 3-7' tall, and spreads by underground runners, so give it room. Native to Europe, but well established and welcome in North America. Z2.

***6501**: 1/$3.50;*
***6502**: 3/$9.00;*
***6503**: 6/$16.50*



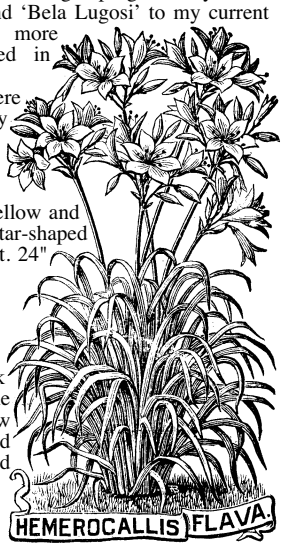
Royal Fern *Osmunda regalis* also attains giant proportions and, as one of the showiest garden ferns, makes a great focal point on a waterside or in a woodland. Soft and wavy deciduous lance-shaped light green fronds can reach 3' long. Sometimes called **Flowering Fern** because some of the fronds have brown spore cases on their tips which lend a decorative tassel-like appearance. Slow-growing plant gets to be 6' tall and over 9' wide in humus-rich moist-to-wet soil. Evolutionarily speaking, *Osmunda* is one of the oldest plant genera, native to North and South America and Asia. And some Royal Fern individuals are said to be 1000 years old. Z3.

***6511**: 1/$3.50;*
***6512**: 3/$9.00;*
***6513**: 6/$16.75*



Hemerocallis **Daylily** produces a bush of narrow arched leaves topped with lily-shaped flowers from July to September and is the champion low-maintenance perennial. *Hemerocallis* means *beautiful day*, *day* referring to the fact that each flower lasts only a day, but since each scape (or stem) is covered with buds, bloom periods can be extensive and the long stems work well in bouquets. Very hardy, flourishes under a wide range of conditions, from full sun to shade, wet to dry. Trouble-free, chokes out weeds. For foundation planting, terrace, brookside, border or wild garden. Plant 12-18" apart in average soil; however daylilies, like almost everything else, benefit from a shovel or two of compost. Of the over 40,000 registered cultivars, approximately 13,000 are still in circulation. And with hundreds of new ones added each year (I'll bet there's a daylily breeder in your neck of the woods) the names get progressively more ridiculous from 'Canadian Border Patrol' and 'Bela Lugosi' to my current favorite 'Spacecoast Starburst'. We list more familiar varieties that are well-established in popularity.

If we run out of local supplies, where applicable, we will provide the same variety commercially grown. Z2.



H. flava **Lemon Lily** or **Custard Lily** When you see the first daylilies of the season blooming by old houses, they're probably yellow and probably Lemon Lilies. Clear bright yellow star-shaped flowers. Old variety with a tart lemony scent. 24" tall.

6521*: 1/$3.20;*
6522*: 3/$8.00;*
6523*: 6/$14.75*

H. **'Autumn Red'** Intense mahogany brick red with a thin yellow stripe down the middle of every other petal. Glowing orange-yellow throat illuminates its classy good looks. Mid to late season. 24-42" tall. Grown at Entwood Nursery. **ME Grown.**

6531*: 1/$3.20;*
6532*: 3/$8.50;*
6533*: 6/$15.00*

H. **'Hyperion'** Excellent pure yellow with no other markings. Midseason diploid, some rebloom, large star-shaped 5" flowers, fragrant award-winner, extra-narrow delicate leaves, 36-40" tall. Introduced in 1925 and still considered one of the best yellows. **ME Grown.**

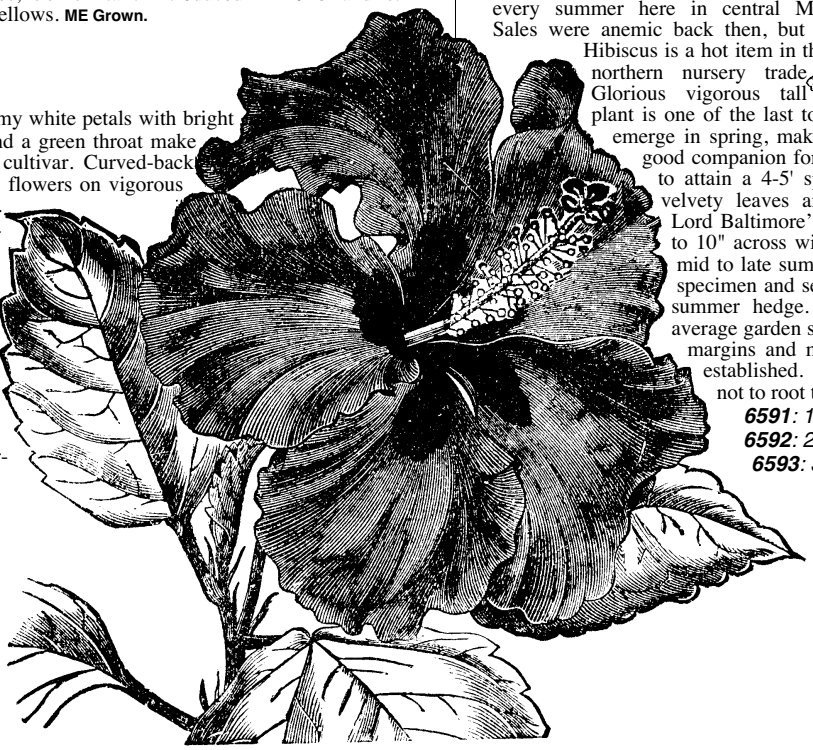
6541*: 1/$3.50;*
6542*: 3/$9.00;*
6543*: 6/$16.50*

H. **'Pandora's Box'** Creamy white petals with bright reddish-purple eye zones and a green throat make Pandora's Box a stunning cultivar. Curved-back petals have wide ruffles. 4" flowers on vigorous plant with a compact habit. Early to midseason. 20" tall.

6551*: 1/$4.50;*
6552*: 3/$11.00;*
6553*: 6/$19.50*

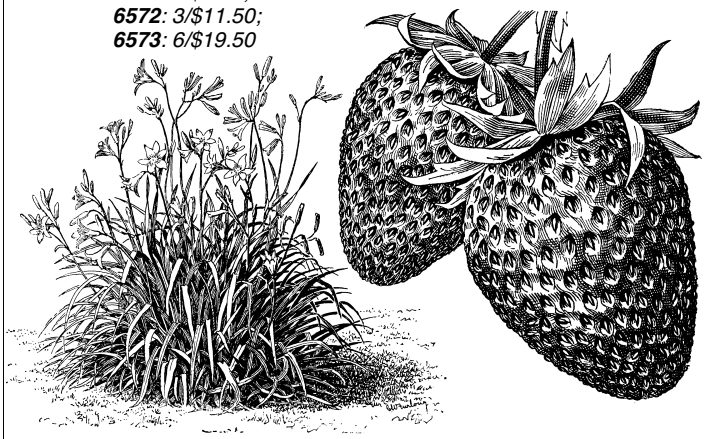
H. **'Ruffled Apricot'** Huge 7" fragrant glowing apricot flowers have lightly ruffled substantial petals, lavender-pink midribs and golden throats. Award-winning tetraploid is a vigorous grower. Midseason. 26-30" tall.

6561*: 1/$4.50;*
6562*: 3/$11.00;*
6563*: 6/$19.00*

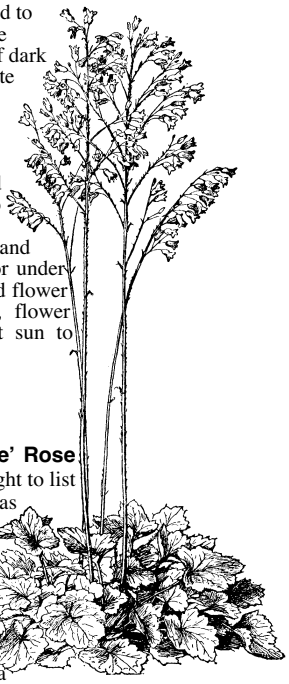


H. **'Strawberry Candy'** The name gives me the collywobbles but the 4" flower is too appealing to resist any longer. Pink petals with a deep pink center and yellow throat have tightly ruffled raspberry-rimmed edges. Extended bloom. Midseason. 20-26" tall.

6571*: 1/$4.50;*
6572*: 3/$11.50;*
6573*: 6/$19.50*



Heuchera sanguinea **'Chatterbox' Coral Bells** One of life's little mysteries was solved for me the day I learned to pronounce Heuchera: HEW-ker-uh. Valuable border or rockery plant with a neat mound of dark green heart-shaped foliage under long delicate vertical stems covered with profuse panicles of little rose-pink flower bells. Amidst the fads for purple, silver, pewter and chocolate-leaved Heucheras, old-fashioned Coral Bells has almost disappeared. It would be a shame to lose easy attractive addition to the garden. Grows in almost any soil except heavy clay, tolerates constant moisture and needs little care. Good in pots, as edging or under shade trees. Will increase over the years and flower faithfully. Foliage mound is 10-12" tall, flower stems 18-22". Plant 12-18" apart in light sun to partial shade. Z3.

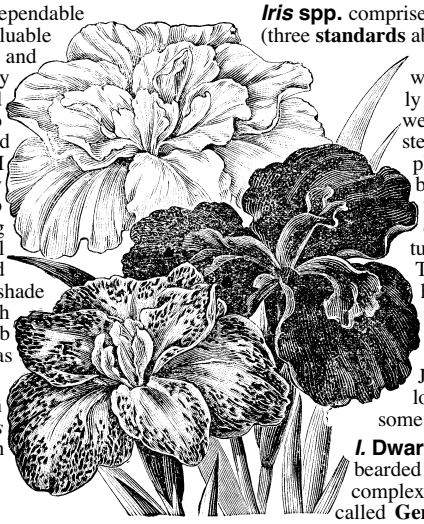


6581*: 1/$4.00;*
6582*: 3/$11.00;*
6583*: 6/$19.00*

Hibiscus moscheutos **'Lord Baltimore' Rose Mallow** Ten years ago, Gene had the foresight to list hibiscus and planted one. Ever since it has provided tropical foliage and flowers every summer here in central Maine. Sales were anemic back then, but now Hibiscus is a hot item in the northern nursery trade. Glorious vigorous tall plant is one of the last to emerge in spring, making it a good companion for spring bulbs, then it grows like crazy to attain a 4-5' spike covered with large deeply lobed velvety leaves and dinner plate-sized single flowers. Lord Baltimore's flowers are brilliant deep red and up to 10" across with overlapping petals. Starts blooming mid to late summer and goes until frost. Makes a fine specimen and several of them would create a stunning summer hedge. Plant 18-24" apart in full sun and average garden soil. Though native to southern swampy margins and meadows, tolerates dry soil once fully established. Since they emerge so late, be careful not to root them out during spring cleanup. Z4.

6591*: 1/$5.50;*
6592*: 2/$9.50;*
6593*: 3/$13.25*

Hosta has bold foliage in orderly mounds with dependable sprays of fragrant bell-shaped flowers on tall stalks. Valuable and cherished low-maintenance border plant and shade-loving ground cover spring to frost. Formerly called **Plantain Lily** or **Funkia** but I have never heard either name. A friend described them as "so architectural!" Several gardeners my age have remarked to me, while admiring a fine planting of hostas, "I didn't used to like them, but now I see how great they are." With their varying colors, textures and clump sizes, hostas alone under trees can make an interesting woodland garden. Hostas tolerate a wide range of soil conditions, but need moisture. Those with blue and variegated leaves develop best color in shade. Deep shade gives fewer flowers. Plant 2-4' apart in rich soil with adequate humus. Divide every 4-5 years, or disturb clumps as little as possible; they improve with age as they spread and establish. Z3.



H. fortunei **Aureomarginata** Deep olive-green leaves have distinct veining and a yellow edge (*aureus* means golden-yellow). Lilac flowers on 24" scapes in August. 18-24" tall clump. Two-for-one sale.

6601*: 2/$4.00;*
6602*: 6/$10.50;*
6603*: 12/$18.50*

H. **'Krossa Regal'** The Royal Horticultural Society handbook on hostas captured it for me: "Giant blue-grey hosta of unique poise. Leaves: narrowly wedge-shaped, blade wavy, powdery greyish blue-green carried on long upright leaf stalks.…Distinct…for its vase-shaped foliage" in clumps up to 40" high. Pale lilac flowers on stalks up to 5'. A blue beauty which is also noted for good performance under adverse conditions.

6611*: 1/$3.50;*
6612*: 3/$8.70;*
6613*: 6/$16.00*

H. **'Love Pat'** Novel variety distinguished by cup-shaped intensely puckered round blue leaves which are stiff, thick and almost quilted. Midseason flowers are off-white, bell-shaped, on scapes to 25". Clumps around 20" tall, eventually become 36" wide. Likes shade.

6621*: 1/$6.50;*
6622*: 2/$11.50;*
6623*: 3/$15.50*

H. **'Minuteman'** Bright white and cheery readiness radiate from this sport of 'Francee'. Dark green slightly cupped leaves have wide variable white margins. Lavender flowers on scapes to 24", clumps around 18" tall.

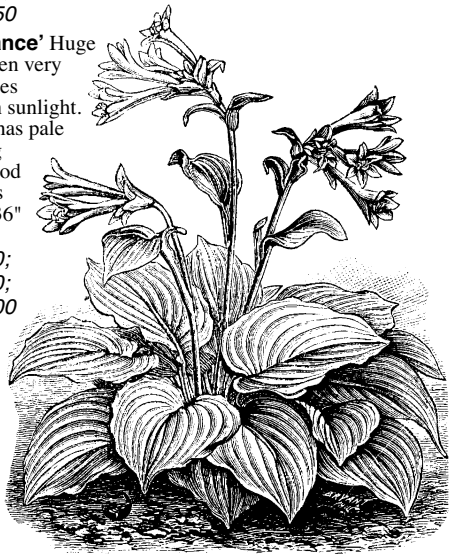
6631*: 1/$4.00;*
6632*: 3/$10.00;*
6633*: 6/$18.00*

H. sieboldiana **'Frances Williams'** Outstanding cultivar often called the best hosta. Leaf interiors rich blue-green with a wide variable golden-yellow edge. Clumps around 36" high. White flowers on shortish slightly pendant stalks harmonize with the foliage rather than stand above it.

6641*: 1/$3.50;*
6642*: 3/$9.00;*
6643*: 6/$16.50*

H. **'Sum and Substance'** Huge rounded chartreuse-green very thick seersuckered leaves become more golden in sunlight. Popular award winner has pale lilac flowers on leaning scapes. Said to have good slug resistance. Clumps become very large: to 36" tall and 60" across.

6651*: 1/$3.50;*
6652*: 3/$9.00;*
6653*: 6/$17.00*



Iris **spp.** comprise a vast genus characterized by beauty, six-petaled flowers (three **standards** above and three **falls** below) and sword-like foliage.

Since the species we offer divide into two general kinds which need different culture, at the risk of being botanically incorrect, here is how I sort out their differences. All that we list are rhizomatous, meaning that they have roots instead of bulbs. (Fedco Bulbs lists some bulbous iris for fall planting.) A useful division within the rhizomatous iris is between **bearded**, with little hairs on the center of each fall petal, and **beardless,** whose petals are smooth. The difference for cultivation is bearded iris have a cylindrical tuber-like root from which more ordinary long roots grow. This "tuber" likes to sit on the soil surface so that only a half to a third of it is in the soil and the beardeds cannot tolerate standing water or damp foliage from being crowded with weeds. They need excellent drainage and enjoy a hot exposed location. Whereas the beardless (like Japanese and Siberian) have a woody crown from which long roots grow; they like a lot of moisture and can tolerate some standing water and cooler locations.

I. **Dwarf Bearded Iris** are short early-blooming versions of tall bearded iris, what most of us think of as "regular" iris. Their complex parentage involves *I. germanica* and they are sometimes called **German Iris**. We are delighted to have a local source for stock, but supplies may be limited. Z4.

I. **'Betsy Boo'** Soft pink, blooms very early, around Mother's Day here in a warm spring. 14-16" tall. **ME Grown.**

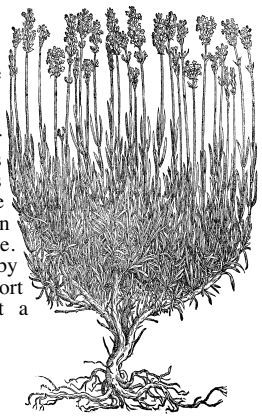
6661*: 1/$3.50;*
6662*: 3/$9.00;*
6663*: 6/$17.00*

I. ensata **Japanese Iris Mix** features immense flat blooms in late June and July that hover above graceful clumps of arching narrow leaves. Petals are wider than those of any other iris and float mysteriously on a horizontal plane. Wonderful in the border, around ponds or streams. Requires ample moisture during active growth and flowering, not as much moisture other times, but must not dry out. Somewhat tricky to grow. Often takes 2 years to establish, then is best left undisturbed. Plant 10-12" apart in slightly acid soil, in full sun or partial shade. Mix includes white and shades of blue, lavender and violet. 36" tall. Z4.

6671*: 1/$4.00;*
6672*: 3/$11.00;*
6673*: 6/$20.00*

I. sibirica **Blue Siberian Iris** produces delicate flowers of deep rich blue on thin stems excellent for cutting. Blooms in late June. Group in border or naturalize in colonies to show off tall slender foliage that looks good all summer. Tolerates most conditions, but performs best in rich moist acid soil. Plant 12-15" apart in full sun or partial shade. Give them room to spread, and divide clumps every few years. This blue is grown at Entwood Nursery and is worth listing season after season because it is outstanding in so many ways: vigor, hardiness, depth of color, number of blossoms, graceful foliage habit. Probably is 'Caesar's Brother' and that is what we'll substitute if we run out of locally grown stock. 42" tall. Z3. **ME Grown.**

6681*: 1/$3.50;*
6682*: 3/$9.00;*
6683*: 6/$17.00*

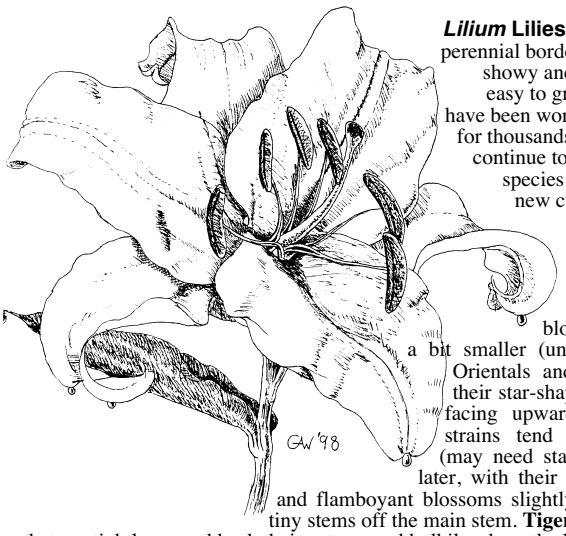


Lavandula angustifolia **Lavender 'Munstead'** blooms in spires of lavender-blue 15-18" tall flowers treasured for their scent. Valued for dried arrangements, potpourri, herb bundles; nice border, rockery, slope, edging or specimen plant. Aroma soothes the nervous system and perfumes the linen closet. Blooms all summer. Aromatic grey-green lanceolate foliage, bushy habit. Prune woody stems in spring. Likes full sun; demands good drainage. Plant 12-18" apart. Still organically grown by Blessed Maine Herb Farm. If supplies run short we will substitute conventionally grown at a reduced price. Z4. **ME Grown.**

6691*: 1/$5.50;*
6692*: 2/$10.00;*
6693*: 3/$14.50*

Liatris spicata **Blazing Star** or **Gayfeather** grows stiff dense "bottlebrush" spikes of magenta-purple flowers, from July to September, which open from the top down. Flowers are good for cutting; leave 1/3 of stem on plant. The foliage is fine and grass-like. Hardy, tolerates a broad range of growing conditions, but not drought. Extra moisture must be the reason they looked so good again this season; the big field of them on Route 3 in South China was fabulous last summer. 20-30" tall. Plant 3" deep, 8-12" apart, in well-drained fertile soil. Z3.

6701*: 10/$2.50;*
6702*: 20/$4.50;*
6703*: 50/$9.50*



***Lilium* Lilies** Queen of the perennial border, fabulously showy and surprisingly easy to grow. Breeders have been working on them for thousands of years and continue to develop new species and scores of new cultivars every year. It's confusing terrain, but briefly: **Asiatic** types bloom early, are a bit smaller (under 4'), than Orientals and often have their star-shaped blossoms facing upward. **Oriental** strains tend to be taller (may need staking), bloom later, with their very fragrant and flamboyant blossoms slightly pendant on tiny stems off the main stem. **Tigers** have petals that are tightly curved back, hairy stems and bulbils where the leaf meets the stem.

Excellent as bedding plants or cutflowers, good as specimens or in solid masses. But the honeymoon of effortless lily care in the northeast is over now that the **lily leaf beetle** (*Lilioceris lilii*) has made its way up to us from the Boston area. I first heard of them at last year's Tree Sale and they were in my beds a few weeks later. Adults, small attractive bright red beetles, overwinter in soil and plant debris and emerge in early spring to munch, mate and lay dull-orange tiny eggs in irregular rows on the undersides of leaves. Larvae hatch in about a week and feed for 16-24 days on leaves of lilies (not daylilies), fritillaria, and nightshades. The larvae are the real nuisance: voracious eaters, they carry their excrement on their backs to deter predators and it makes them mightily unappealing. Then they drop to the ground and pupate in cocoons and emerge in about 25 days as adults. We had good results picking the first flush of adults and dropping them in soapy water and saw very few larvae. Leaves had holes in them but the damage was nothing like the denuded stalks that some gardeners described. Apparently standard organic insecticides are effective on them, too.

Lilies prefer light shade to prolong summer blooms and to keep the bulbs cool. Mulch in full sun. Plant bulbs 6-8" deep, 6" apart in rich well-drained soil, slightly acid with good humus content. Z3.

***L.* 'Cancun'** Asiatic, 42" Warm yellow petals with prominent red-orange tips evoke Mexican heat in northern gardens. Bargain prices on 1 1/2" bulbs.

***6711**: 2/$2.50;*
***6712**: 6/$6.50;*
***6713**: 12/$12.00*

***L.* 'Connecticut King'** Asiatic, 36" Long-lasting upward-facing star-shaped intense buttercup-yellow flowers. Bargain prices on 1 3/4" bulbs.

***6721**: 2/$3.00;*
***6722**: 6/$7.00;*
***6723**: 12/$13.00*

***L.* 'Monte Negro'** Asiatic, 42" Stir a dab of dark chocolate into fire engine red and you've got the intense deep color of 'Monte Negro'. Early: the first lily to bloom in my garden. Bargain prices on 1 3/4" bulbs.

***6731**: 2/$2.30;*
***6732**: 6/$6.00;*
***6733**: 12/$11.00*

***L.* 'Vermeer'** Asiatic, 36-40" Shell pink brushed white toward the center. Bargain prices on 1 3/4" bulbs.

***6741**: 2/$2.30;*
***6742**: 6/$6.00;*
***6743**: 12/$11.00*

***L.* 'Acapulco'** Oriental, 36-48" Fragrant. Deep pink with a hint of orange emerging from the throat. Pink dots and a subtle pink stripe highlight the warm color. 1 3/4-2" bulbs.

***6751**: 2/$3.50;*
***6752**: 6/$9.00;*
***6753**: 12/$17.00*

***L.* 'Amazing'** Oriental gold band-type, 32" Fragrant. White with a glowing yellow strip emerging from the throat and extending most of the length of each petal. 1 3/4-2" bulbs.

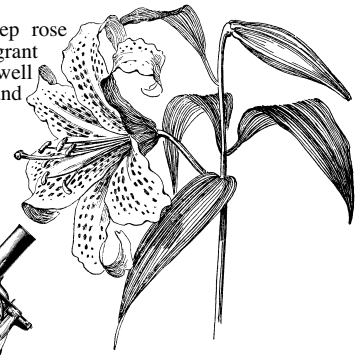
***6761**: 2/$3.50;*
***6762**: 6/$8.00;*
***6763**: 12/$15.25*

***L.* 'Casa Blanca'** Oriental, 40-44" (but I've seen them blooming from 3-8'). Pure white with textured white specks, and bobbing russet anthers. Absolutely gorgeous and their alluring fragrance fills the garden. Always one of our most popular offerings. Big 2 1/4-2 1/2" bulbs.

***6771**: 1/$3.00; **6772**: 3/$8.00; **6773**: 6/$14.50*

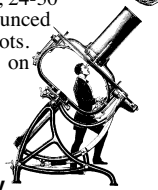
***L.* 'Stargazer'** Oriental, 24-30" Deep rose with narrow white edge, spotted. Fragrant flowers are huge when plants become well established. Continues to be wildly and deservedly popular. 2-2 1/4" bulbs.

***6781**: 2/$3.00;*
***6782**: 6/$8.00;*
***6783**: 12/$14.25*

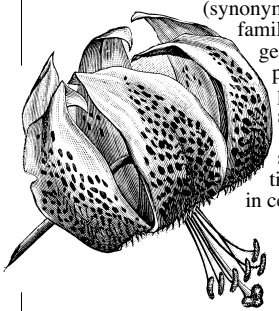


***L.* 'Tom Pouce'** Oriental, 24-30" Medium-pink with pronounced inner yellow stripe and dots. Fragrant. Bargain prices on 1 3/4" bulbs.

***6791**: 2/$3.00;*
***6792**: 6/$8.00;*
***6793**: 12/$14.00*



***L. tigrinum* Tiger Lily** (synonym *L. lancifolium*) Robust grower produces scads of familiar orange nodding flowers with recurved petals generously flecked with dark purple dots, and prominent rusty-red anthers. Distinguished by purplish-black bulbils in the leaf axils along the stem. When the plant is happy, the bulbils will drop and sprout baby lilies by the score. A few shovels of compost keep my thriving plantation of tiger lilies happy year after year. Blooms in August in central Maine. 2-5' tall. Z2. 1 1/2" bulbs.



***6801**: 2/$3.00;*
***6802**: 6/$8.00;*
***6803**: 12/$14.50*

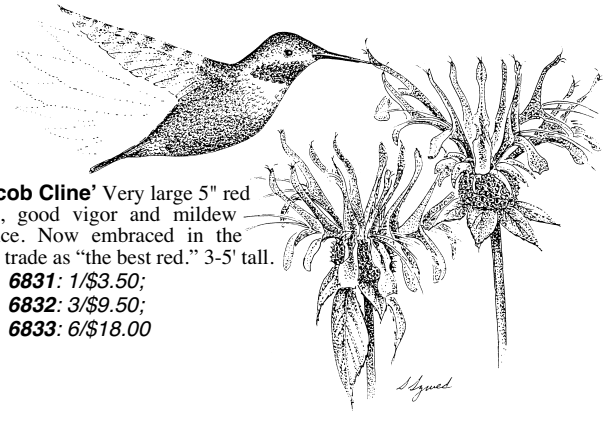
***Mertensia virginica* Bluebells** or **Virginia Bluebells** or **Virginia Cowslip** When Kip brought bluebells into the office during daffodil bloom time last year, I remembered what a spring treat they are. Clump-forming plant with erect stems and oval veined leaves bears clusters of nodding bell-shaped flowers on terminal cymes. Pink buds open to sky-blue or purple-blue flowers which look a lot like those of Pulmonaria or borage. In fact, another name is *M. pulmonarioides*. Beautiful in shade displays with ferns, Dicentra and Scilla. Prefer moist lowlands and acid woodsy soil in part shade. 18-24" tall. Dormant in summer. Native to eastern North America. Z3.

***6811**: 1/$3.00;*
***6812**: 3/$7.50;*
***6813**: 6/$14.00*

***Monarda didyma* Bee Balm** or **Oswego Tea** is loved by bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. Attractive showy flower heads with tubular petals on pincushion heads borne above colorful bracts in July and August. Coarse aromatic foliage. Good for borders, naturalized in wet areas, and for cutting. A vigorous member of the mint family—some might say invasive. Plant crowns 16-20" apart in light shade in moist soil. Thrives in full sun if given adequate moisture or mulched with leaf mold; tolerates most conditions. Z3.

M.* 'Blue Stocking'** Also called ***Blaustrumpf. Violet-purple with purple bracts. 34-38" tall.

***6821**: 1/$3.50;*
***6822**: 3/$9.50;*
***6823**: 6/$17.50*

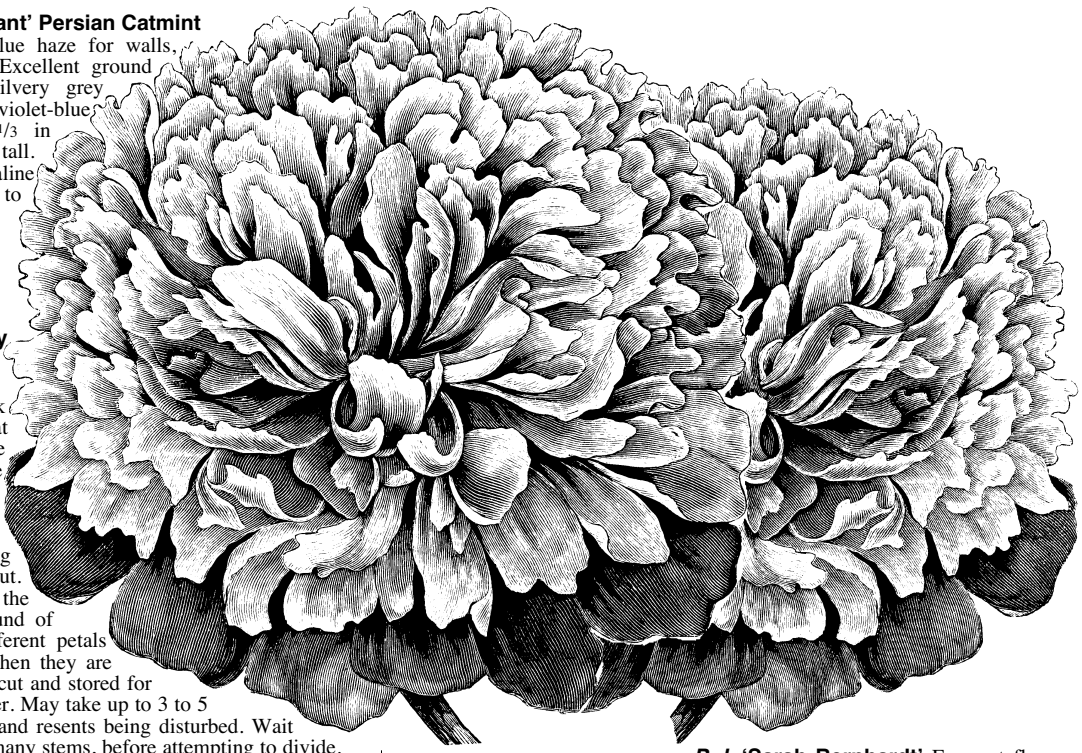


***M.* 'Jacob Cline'** Very large 5" red flowers, good vigor and mildew resistance. Now embraced in the nursery trade as "the best red." 3-5' tall.

***6831**: 1/$3.50;*
***6832**: 3/$9.50;*
***6833**: 6/$18.00*

***Nepeta* x *faassenii* 'Six Hills Giant' Persian Catmint**
Multiple colored spikes form a blue haze for walls, edging, borders or rock gardens. Excellent ground cover for sandy or dry soil. Silvery grey aromatic leaves offset clusters of violet-blue fringed blossoms. Prune back by 1/3 in summer to maintain habit. 24-36" tall. Plant 12-18" apart in slightly alkaline well-drained light soil, full sun to partial shade. Z3.

***6841**: 1/$3.25;*
***6842**: 3/$8.50;*
***6843**: 6/$15.50*



***Pæonia lactiflora* Garden Peony or Chinese Peony** Red shoots appear in spring and form a bushy clump, about 3x3', of lustrous dark green deeply lobed foliage. Fat spherical buds on sturdy stems above the foliage gradually open into large beautiful flowers in late spring to early summer. (Ants help the buds to open so don't discourage their presence.) Huge flowers are stunning on the bush and wonderful when cut. Most are fully double but the Japanese-type features a single round of petals that frames a clump of different petals inside. If you catch flower buds when they are just marshmallow soft, they can be cut and stored for weeks in the fridge for bouquets later. May take up to 3 to 5 years to establish before blooming and resents being disturbed. Wait several years, until the plants have many stems, before attempting to divide. Stock has 2-3 eyes. Z3.

***P. l.* 'Bowl of Beauty'** Striking two-tone effect of this Japanese flower-type makes me think of a bright pink bowl holding one scoop of French vanilla ice cream. A partially double row of dark carmine-pink petals opens to display a creamy-yellow carnation-like center made up of a profusion of narrow petaloids. Scented. Midseason. 38" tall.

***6851**: 1/$8.75;*
***6852**: 2/$16.00;*
***6853**: 3/$22.00*

***P. l.* 'Festiva Maxima'** Introduced in 1851 and possibly my favorite peony, though it would be hard to decide between Festiva and Sarah Bernhardt. Large fragrant double white flowers have tiny crimson lines drizzled through some of the inner petals. Early season. 36-39" tall.

***6861**: 1/$7.50;*
***6862**: 2/$12.50;*
***6863**: 3/$18.00*

***P. l.* 'Karl Rosenfield'** Large bright fuchsia-red fully double blooms. Mild fragrance, excellent for cutting. Some people even dry them. Midseason. 28-33" tall.

***6871**: 1/$6.50;*
***6872**: 2/$10.50;*
***6873**: 3/$15.00*

***P. l.* 'Lady Alexandra Duff'** Blowsy is not a compliment when applied to ladies, but it describes a loose disheveled profusion of petals that I find irresistible in flowers. Light blush pink is combined with cream, the lower larger petals are often pinker. Overall effect is fragrantly blowsy. Introduced in 1902. Midseason. 28-30" tall.

***6881**: 1/$7.50;*
***6882**: 2/$13.00;*
***6883**: 3/$18.50*

Garden Peonies Plant 2-3' apart with the eyes (where the growth shoots meet the root) no more than 1-1 1/2" below the surface in well-drained soil, full sun to partial shade. Peonies are extremely long-lived so amend the soil richly when you plant. Compost, very well-rotted manure, bone meal and azomite are all recommended. After that they needing only a bit of weeding and feeding to flourish.

Mature plants often need staking or tying because flowers and buds can be quite heavy. For big plants, I've been using a chicken-wire method that Mary Fowler recommended. Cut a flat circle of chicken wire 2 or 3' in diameter and place it on the shoots when they are 8-10" tall. The shoots lift the wire, grow through it and use it for an invisible support.

Remove spent flowers after blooming, then cut dead foliage to near ground level in fall. Plant along the driveway; a heavy snowbank doesn't bother them.

Tree Peonies tolerate moist soils but require good drainage. Plants thrive in full sun but it may fade flower color. Plant graft union 2-3" below soil level, in rich well-drained soil. Don't prune except for removing dead wood in spring after plants have leafed out.

***P. l.* 'Sarah Bernhardt'** Fragrant flowers open with narrow red lines shot onto light rose-pink. Matures to delicate pink with a slight silvery edge. Can a pink be both silvery and warm? This one is. One of my favorites with exactly the right amount of doubling—appears richly full but not crammed. Late season. 36".

***6891**: 1/$6.00; **6892**: 2/$10.25; **6893**: 3/$14.50*

***Pæonia suffruticosa* Japanese Tree Peony** or **Moutan** is expensive, but as garden writer Peter Coats says, "It is worthwhile to sell everything one possesses to buy pæonies, and to dig up everything else in the garden to make room for them." A fashion craze in China by the 7th century, tree peonies appear in poets' songs and as decorative motifs in architecture, porcelain and fabric. 19th century botanical explorer Robert Fortune reported a specimen outside Shanghai that produced 300-400 flowers a year. Deciduous shrub with deeply cut narrow-lobed medium green foliage forms many (though probably fewer than 300 in its first century) large stunning flowers in early June, before Garden Peony. Semi-double extravagantly big flowers with loose satiny petals. Full sun promotes fastest growth but fades flowers which do best in dappled shade; fanatics shade plants with umbrellas while they are flowering. 48-60" tall. 1-yr. plants imported from Japan may need 2-3 years to mature before blooming begins. Z4.

***P. s.* 'Kamatanishiki' Tree Peony** wisteria-blue with lighter petal edges.

***6901**: 1/$21.00;*
***6902**: 2/$39.00;*
***6903**: 3/$57.00*

***P. s.* Purple Tree Peony**

***6911**: 1/$15.50;*
***6912**: 2/$26.00;*
***6913**: 3/$37.00*

***P. s.* Red Tree Peony**

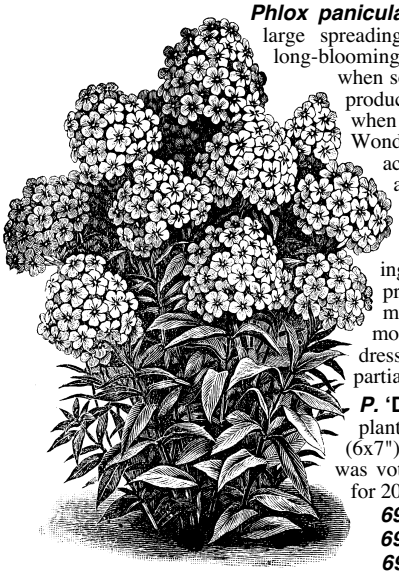
***6921**: 1/$15.50;*
***6922**: 2/$26.00;*
***6923**: 3/$36.00*

***P. s.* Yellow Tree Peony**

***6931**: 1/$15.50;*
***6932**: 2/$26.00;*
***6933**: 3/$37.00*

***Perovskia atriplicifolia* Russian Sage** blossoms in midsummer with slender airy spires of lavender-blue tubular flowers. Finely divided grey leaves are aromatic when crushed. 1995 PPA Plant of the Year. Low-maintenance background or filler beautiful with roses or whites and blues. Perovskia has one of the longest bloom times of any blue-flowered plant. Upright habit, semi-woody shrub, emerges slowly in spring; cut back after frost. Tolerates drought, loves heat and full sun, can't bear standing water. 3-4' tall. Likes to spread out once it gets established; plant 24-36" apart. I suspect that Zone 4 reports of winterkill are from poor drainage rather than cold, so a cautious Z4.

***6941**: 1/$3.75;*
***6942**: 3/$9.50;*
***6943**: 6/$17.75*



Phlox paniculata **Garden Phlox** produces large spreading clusters of fragrant showy long-blooming flowers in mid to late summer when so many blooms are fading, and produces delicate satiny panicles when so many blooms are coarse. Wonderful color and fragrance for accents, border or naturalized area. Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds. Essential component of late-summer wedding bouquets. Extend flowering season by watering and prompt deadheading. Prefers humus-rich soil that stays cool and moist in summer and regular side-dressing. Plant 2' apart in full sun to partial shade. Z3.

P. **'David'** White flowers cover the plant so completely with enormous (6x7") and fragrant blooms that it was voted the PPA Plant of the Year for 2002. 30-42" tall.

6951*: 1/$3.00;*
6952*: 3/$8.25;*
6953*: 6/$15.50*

P. **'Nicky'** Magenta-purple, darkest of the tall garden phlox. Fragrant and good for cutting, good mildew resistance. 30-36'.

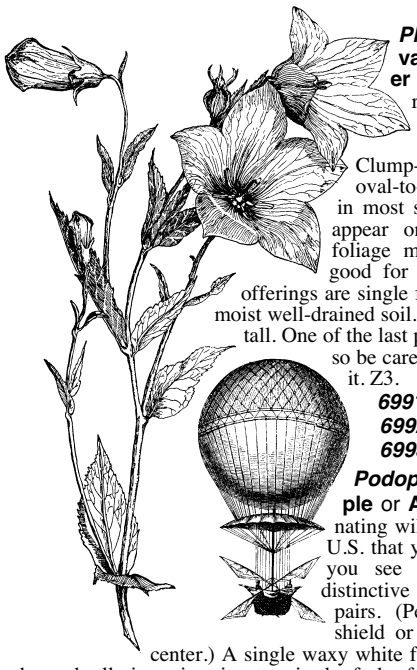
6961*: 1/$3.00;*
6962*: 3/$8.25;*
6963*: 6/$15.75*

P. **'Orange Perfection'** Vigorous grower is brilliant orange with slightly darker eye. Give the phlox bed a new twist; looks striking with white, red or pink and positively outrageous with magenta. 36".

6971*: 1/$3.00;*
6972*: 3/$8.25;*
6973*: 6/$15.75*

P. **'Starfire'** Reliable old favorite often considered the best red. Large (6x6") abundant cherry-red flower clusters are fragrant from midsummer into fall. 25-36".

6981*: 1/$3.00;*
6982*: 3/$8.25;*
6983*: 6/$15.50*



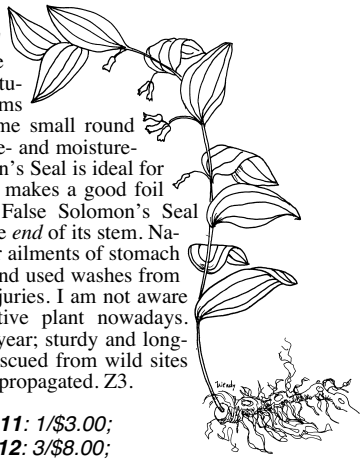
Platycodon grandiflorus **var.** ***mariesii*** **Balloon Flower** is named for its buds which really do swell like balloons before they burst into bell-like violet-blue flowers. Clump-forming plant has dark green oval-to-narrow leaves that look good in most settings. Fascinating balloons appear on upright stems above the foliage mid to late summer and are good for cutting. Both of this year's offerings are single flowers. Plant 12-18" apart in moist well-drained soil. Sometimes self-sows. 12-24" tall. One of the last perennials to emerge in spring so be careful not to disrupt or overplant it. Z3.

6991*: 1/$2.90;*
6992*: 3/$7.50;*
6993*: 6/$13.50*

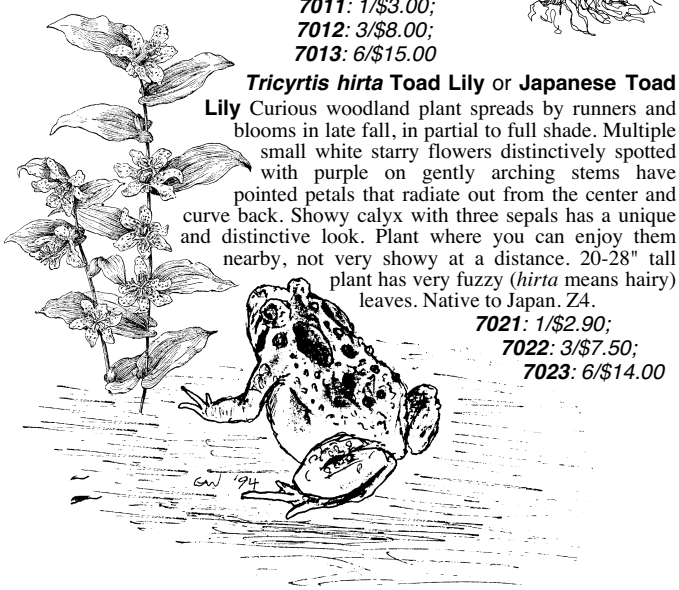
Podophyllum peltatum **Mayapple** or **American Mandrake** Fascinating wildflower native to the eastern U.S. that you may recognize as soon as you see it. Smooth deeply divided distinctive umbrella-like leaves grow in pairs. (Peltate means shaped like a shield or a circle with stem near the center.) A single waxy white flower 2" across droops under the umbrella in spring, its stem in the fork of the two leaf stems. Fruit is a large lemon-like yellow berry. Forms colonies via creeping rhizomes and becomes a 12-18" tall groundcover in shade to part shade, rich moist woods or moist fields bordering on woods. Roots and leaves poisonous, native Americans and early settlers used as a purgative. Nursery propagated. Z4 maybe 3.

7001*: 1/$3.00;*
7002*: 3/$7.75;*
7003*: 6/$14.50*

Polygonatum biflorum **Solomon's Seal** forms clumps of graceful arching stems about 3' long with long narrow alternate leaves. Greenish-white bell-shaped tubular flowers dangle from the stems in a row in late spring, and become small round blue-black fruits in early fall. Shade- and moisture-loving, with a serene habit, Solomon's Seal is ideal for the shade or woodland garden and makes a good foil for ferns. Don't confuse it with False Solomon's Seal which has a plume-like flower at the *end* of its stem. Native Americans used the root tea for ailments of stomach and lung and for general debility, and used washes from the root for all kinds of external injuries. I am not aware of local herbalists using this native plant nowadays. Sends up a few more stems every year; sturdy and long-lived. Native eastern wild plant, rescued from wild sites about to be developed, and nursery propagated. Z3.



7011*: 1/$3.00;*
7012*: 3/$8.00;*
7013*: 6/$15.00*



Tricyrtis hirta **Toad Lily** or **Japanese Toad Lily** Curious woodland plant spreads by runners and blooms in late fall, in partial to full shade. Multiple small white starry flowers distinctively spotted with purple on gently arching stems have pointed petals that radiate out from the center and curve back. Showy calyx with three sepals has a unique and distinctive look. Plant where you can enjoy them nearby, not very showy at a distance. 20-28" tall plant has very fuzzy (*hirta* means hairy) leaves. Native to Japan. Z4.

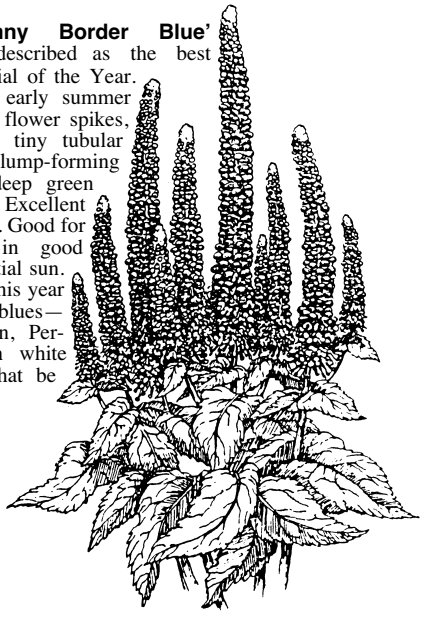
7021*: 1/$2.90;*
7022*: 3/$7.50;*
7023*: 6/$14.00*

Trillium erectum **Red Trillium** or **Wakerobin** or **Stinking Benjamin** Our local wildflower preserve features huge patches of red trillium blooming in late April, a spectacular and pleasing sight. All the descriptions mention a bad smell, but we don't get the "stinking" part, detecting only a faint oceany hint of tidal flats. Maroon blossom with three petals and three sepals sits erect on a short stem above the three oval leaves in a single whorl. Grows in moist rich woods, full or part shade, from Nova Scotia to the mountains of Georgia, west into Michigan. Nursery-propagated stock. Z4.

7031*: 1/$3.00;*
7032*: 3/$7.75;*
7033*: 6/$14.50*

Veronica spicata **'Sunny Border Blue' Speedwell** is sometimes described as the best veronica. 1993 PPA Perennial of the Year. Gentian-blue flowers from early summer into autumn. Multiple erect flower spikes, each thickly covered with tiny tubular blossoms, are 18-20" tall. Clump-forming plant has narrow glossy deep green finely serrated leaves. Excellent addition to border or rockery. Good for cutting. Easy to grow in good well-drained soil, full to partial sun. If I were building a garden this year I would combine the blues—Hyssop, Nepeta, Platycodon, Perovskia and this one—with white 'David' phlox. Wouldn't that be cool in August? Z3.

7041*: 1/$3.00;*
7042*: 3/$8.00;*
7043*: 6/$15.00*



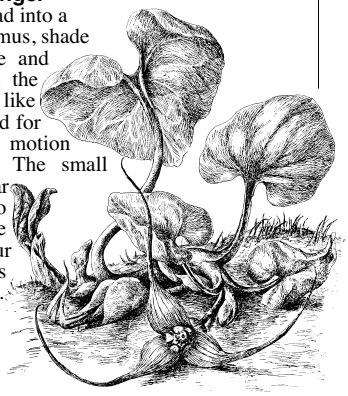
Perennial Medicinal Plants

Growing medicinal plants in your own garden gives you the opportunity to come to know their personalities, forms, uses and spirits. It also helps to prevent wild plants from being overharvested. Medicine you make from your plants returns you to your garden, regardless of the time or the place that you use it.

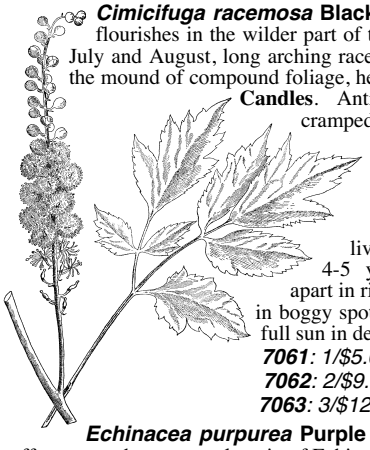
Many of the other plants we list have a tradition of medicinal use as well. These include Lavender, Bee Balm, Peony, Rose, Elder, Hops, Ginkgo, Linden, Hawthorne, Witch Hazel, Blueberry, Cranberry and Highbush Cranberry. (Index on p. 59.)

Like most perennials, these appreciate a fall mulch and a sidedressing of compost or leaf mold in the spring. Some may take a year or more to establish before they flower; roots often take several years to reach harvestable maturity. The organic listings are certified by MOFGA Certification Services and grown by Gail Edwards of the Blessed Maine Herb Farm in Athens. Supplies may be limited, so order early.

***Asarum canadense* Canadian Wild Ginger**
Heart-shaped leaves up to 7" wide will spread into a beautiful groundcover 6-12" tall if given humus, shade and plenty of moisture. Leaves are large and slightly fuzzy, not small and glossy like the European species. Aromatic roots used like other gingers for their warming qualities and for soothing indigestion, coughs, colds, motion sickness. Grown for roots and foliage. The small reddish-brown urn-shaped flowers grow near the soil surface or in the leaf mold so crawling insects will pollinate them. They're fun to search for but won't decorate your landscape. Plants rescued from wild sites before development and nursery propagated. Z3.



***7051**: 1/$2.90;*
***7052**: 3/$7.50;*
***7053**: 6/$14.25*



***Cimicifuga racemosa* Black Cohosh** or **Black Snakeroot** flourishes in the wilder part of the garden or shady border. In late July and August, long arching racemes of creamy flowers rise above the mound of compound foliage, hence another common name, **Fairy Candles**. Anti-spasmodic for cramps, pains, cramped nerves and emotions, included in many peri-menopausal formulas. I've heard quite a few women my age say rather passionately, "I *love* this plant!" Diuretic and anti-inflammatory. Easy to grow, long-lived, needs division or harvest every 4-5 years. 36-72" tall. Plant 30-36" apart in rich moist soil high in humus. Good in boggy spots. Prefers part shade, but tolerates full sun in deep moist soil. Z3.

***7061**: 1/$5.00;*
***7062**: 2/$9.00;*
***7063**: 3/$12.50*

***Echinacea purpurea* Purple Coneflower** Some year we may offer a named ornamental strain of Echinacea, but Gail Edwards' organically grown medicinal strain is also stunningly beautiful and strikes me as more valuable than a merely ornamental cultivar, even if you use it only for ornament. *Echinos* means spiny and the flower's big conical centers are very spiny and coppery yellow-brown, surrounded by a single row of slightly reflexed lavender-purple petals. Flowers attract butterflies and beneficial insects, and last well when cut. Their color combination marries pinks, oranges, lavenders and golds that wouldn't ordinarily go together in beds or bouquets. Tincture the roots of 3-year-old plants for a remedy that gives an immediate boost to the immune system. That's why people use it when they feel a cold or flu coming on. Vigorous grower likes full sun and sandy loam, self-sows and tolerates wind, heat and drought once established. 30-48" tall. Plant 20-30" apart in light soil. Certified organic. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***7071**: 1/$5.75;*
***7072**: 2/$10.00;*
***7073**: 3/$14.25*

ME Grown = grown in Maine by a member of the Fedco growers coop

***Hydrastis canadensis* Goldenseal** Native Americans taught Europeans how to use this healing plant which has astringent and powerfully tonic qualities for all mucous membranes. Used in cold formulas and for other respiratory complaints, as well as for inflammations of the digestive tract. Tincture the yellow root or use it dried and powdered, leaves have weak medicinal properties as well. Plants have upright stalks, typically forked into two stems, each with a deeply incised dark green leaf with 5-9 lobes and toothed edges. A white flower appears above the foliage in spring and matures to a red berry. 6-12" tall. Likes rich woodland soil; culture is similar to ginseng's but goldenseal is easier to grow. Use plenty of compost and leaf mold for very humus-rich well-drained soil. Grow in almost total shade and prevent any competition. Harvest root after the seeds ripen in fall. Organically grown. Z3. **ME Grown.**

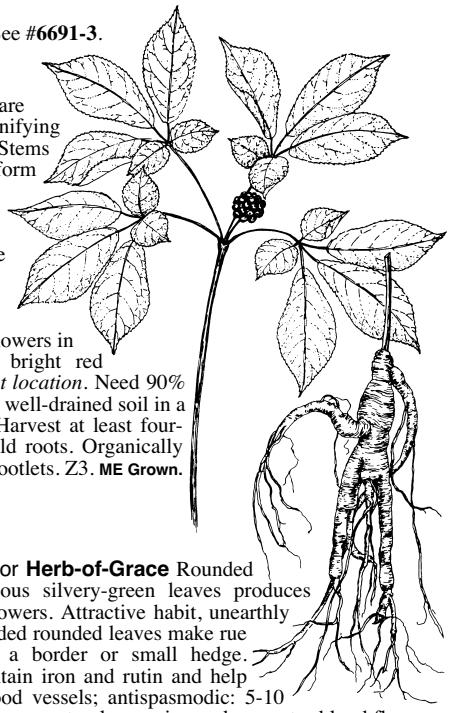
***7081**: 1/$8.50;*
***7082**: 2/$15.00;*
***7083**: 3/$21.00*

***Hyssopus officinalis* Hyssop** Blue-violet flowers on erect stalks blossom June-September and are wonderfully ornamental. Well-worth growing for an aromatic low hedge or in the border even if you don't have an herb garden. Bees love it. Leaf infusions long used for sore throats and stomach troubles, flower spikes in cough syrups. Thrives in dry soil, useful on slopes and any sunny difficult place. 12-20" tall. Plant 12-24" apart in poor soil, full sun to light shade. Organically grown. Z3. **ME Grown.**

***7091**: 1/$5.75;*
***7092**: 2/$10.00;*
***7093**: 3/$14.25*

***Lavandula* Lavender** See #**6691-3**.

***Panax quinquefolius* American Ginseng** is grown for its roots which are much valued for their tonifying and restorative qualities. Stems emerge each spring and form a whorl of three coarsely toothed leaves. Gail says when you see how it emerges from the soil, like a curled-up claw, you know right away that it's powerful. Grows 1-3' tall. Small white star-shaped flowers in summer followed by a bright red fruit. *They are fussy about location*. Need 90% shade and deep rich moist well-drained soil in a hardwoods-type habitat. Harvest at least four- and preferably six-year-old roots. Organically grown tiny one-year-old rootlets. Z3. **ME Grown.**



***7101**: 1/$8.50;*
***7102**: 2/$15.00;*
***7103**: 3/$21.00*

***Ruta graveolens* Rue** or **Herb-of-Grace** Rounded bushy shrub with gorgeous silvery-green leaves produces 4-petaled small yellow flowers. Attractive habit, unearthly color and fascinating divided rounded leaves make rue a good accent plant in a border or small hedge. Pungent bitter leaves contain iron and rutin and help strengthen blood and blood vessels; antispasmodic: 5-10 drops fresh tincture relieves menstrual cramping and promotes blood flow. A bitter, use in very small amounts to calm nervous indigestion. Strongly emetic, more than 15 drops induces vomiting. Use externally in an infused oil for sciatica and strained muscles. Burn as a smudge to banish unwanted thoughts or energies. Gail says that in her southern Italian village people chew one leaf a day as a prophylactic against parasites. Repels fleas and other insects, used as a insect- and deer-repellent companion crop. Wash after handling: the foliage can cause a photo-sensitive rash. *Should never be ingested by pregnant women*. Organic. Z4. **ME Grown.**

***7111**: 1/$5.75;*
***7112**: 2/$10.00;*
***7113**: 3/$14.25*

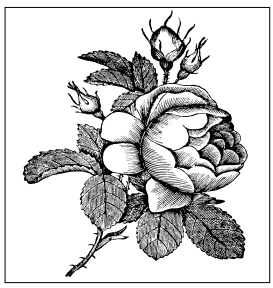
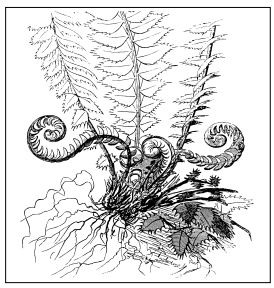
***Salvia officinalis* Sage** Once I was weeding a bed on a hot summer day and kept thinking about turkey dinner. It seemed incongruous but eventually I realized that I was brushing against the sage plant behind me. Such is the power of scents. I know sage as culinary more than medicinal, but Gail praises sage's medicinal properties. Anti-microbial, used as a gargle for sore throats and canker sores, soothing for throats when combined with honey. Highly astringent. Gail recommends mixing powdered sage with cornstarch or clay for an antiperspirant. Tea or tincture dries up breast milk. In the kitchen, leaves best known as seasoning for stuffings and sausages, but make an interesting accent to many dishes. Grows 18-30" tall. Fuzzy grey-green oblong leaves and lavender-blue flower spikes make sage an attractive ornamental, too. Organic. Z4. **ME Grown.**

***7121**: 1/$5.75;*
***7122**: 2/$10.00;*
***7123**: 3/$14.25*

Item	Name	Fedco-Coop Grown	Bundle Size	For Wet Spots	For Shady Spots	For Dry Spots	For Wildlife	Vining	Specimen	Hedges	Ground Covers
1384	American Plum		10			♦	♦			♦	
2028	American Plum	❁				♦	♦			♦	
2260	Lowbush Blueberry	❁		♦		♦	♦				♦
2280ff	Highbush Blueberry	❁		♦			♦			♦	
2370ff	Grapes	❁					♦	♦			
2668	Kiwigold Yellow Raspberry		10				♦			♦	
2685-6	Nova Raspberry		10, 25				♦			♦	♦
2688	Pathfinder		10				♦				
2690-1	Prelude Raspberry		10, 25				♦			♦	♦
2700	Royalty Purple Raspberry		10				♦			♦	
2720-1	Taylor Raspberry		10, 25				♦			♦	♦
2750	Fort Kent King Blackberry	❁	3				♦			♦	♦
2827	Kiwi	❁					♦	♦			
2890	American Cranberry	❁	10	♦							♦
2930	Regent Juneberry			♦	♦	♦	♦				
3000	Cornelian Cherry	❁			♦		♦				
3030ff	Hops		3					♦			
3082	Beach Plum	❁				♦	♦			♦	
3100	Nanking Cherry						♦			♦	
3135ff	Elderberry	❁		♦			♦			♦	
3240ff	Highbush Cranberry	❁		♦	♦		♦			♦	
3270	Balsam Fir		5		♦	♦	♦			♦	
3325	American Larch	❁		♦					♦		
3350	Dawn Redwood	❁		♦			♦		♦		
3400ff	Spruce		5				♦		♦	♦	
3530	Red Pine		5			♦	♦				
3540	Eastern White Pine		5				♦			♦	
3590	American Arborvitae		5	♦	♦		♦			♦	
3620	Eastern Hemlock		5				♦			♦	
3760	American Chestnut	❁					♦				
3764	Chinese Chestnut	❁					♦		♦		
3785ff	Hazelnut	❁				♦	♦			♦	
3815	Black Walnut	❁					♦		♦		
3985	Red Maple	❁		♦			♦		♦		
3990	Sugar Maple	❁					♦		♦		
4016	Paper Birch						♦		♦		
4030	Catalpa speciosa								♦		
4065	Purple Beech								♦		
4090	Ginkgo								♦		
4135	Amur Chokecherry						♦		♦		
4150	Swamp White Oak			♦			♦		♦		
4160	Pin Oak			♦			♦		♦		
4170	Red Oak					♦	♦		♦		
4190	Cape Rosier Willow	❁		♦							
4195	Niobe Weeping Willow	❁		♦					♦		
4200	Snake Willow	❁		♦					♦		
4205	American Linden						♦		♦		
4240	Redbud				♦				♦		
4245	Fringe Tree			♦			♦		♦		
4255	Pagoda Dogwood	❁					♦				
4275	Crimson Cloud Hawthorn						♦		♦		
4332	Witch Hazel			♦	♦		♦				
4519ff	Crabapple	❁					♦		♦		
4903	Showy Mountain Ash						♦		♦		
4912	Japanese Tree Lilac					♦			♦		
4923	Camperdown Elm	❁							♦		
4936	Bottlebrush Buckeye				♦					♦	♦
4945	Bearberry	❁			♦	♦	♦				♦
4954	Dutchman's Pipe				♦			♦			
4961ff	Chokeberry			♦	♦	♦	♦			♦	
4990ff	Butterfly Bush	❁					♦				
5038	American Bittersweet							♦			
5049	Buttonbush	❁		♦	♦		♦				
5060	Red Flowering Quince	❁					♦				
5069	Summersweet	❁		♦	♦		♦			♦	
5083	Tatarian Dogwood	❁		♦	♦		♦			♦	♦
5086	Silky Dogwood	❁		♦			♦			♦	♦
5107	Harry Lauder's Walking Stick								♦		

Item	Name	Fedco-Coop Grown	Bundle Size	For Wet Spots	For Shady Spots	For Dry Spots	For Wildlife	Vining	Specimen	Hedges	Ground Covers
5116	Royal Purple Smokebush	❁				♦			♦		
5142	Northern Gold Forsythia									♦	
5157	Large Fothergilla			♦	♦						
5168	Annabelle Hydrangea	❁			♦						
5172	Endless Summer Hydrangea				♦						
5178	Compact Pee Gee Hydrangea	❁			♦				♦		
5189ff	Winterberry	❁		♦			♦			♦	
5204	Henry's Garnet Sweetspire			♦	♦					♦	
5210	Beautybush										
5222	Dropmore Scarlet Honeysuckle	❁			♦		♦	♦			
5240	Bayberry	❁				♦	♦				
5264	Sweet Mockorange					♦			♦	♦	
5306ff	Potentilla	some		♦		♦					
5320	Dwarf Sand Cherry	❁				♦	♦				♦
5350	Rosa rugosa		3			♦	♦			♦	♦
5372	Bombu's Rose	❁				♦	♦				
5374	Carefree Beauty Rose					♦	♦				
5394	Charles Albanel Rose					♦	♦				
5409	Fru Dagmar Hastrup Rose					♦	♦			♦	
5439	Henry Kelsey Rose	❁				♦	♦				
5464	JP Connell Rose					♦					
5479	Marie Bugnet Rose					♦	no hips			♦	
5505	Redleaf Rose					♦	♦			♦	
5529	Schneekoppe Rose					♦	♦			♦	
5544	William Baffin Rose	❁				♦	♦				
5568	Black Pussy willow	❁		♦							
5571	Hakura Nishiki Willow			♦	♦	♦					
5577	Blue Leaf Arctic Willow	❁		♦			♦			♦	♦
5596	Ural Falsespirea				♦					♦	♦
5643	Goldmound Spirea	❁							♦		
5670	Little Princess Spirea	❁							♦		♦
5694	Snow White Spirea	❁							♦		
5720	White Snowberry				♦		♦			♦	
5749ff	Lilac	❁				♦			♦	♦	
5900	Yankee Doodle Lilac	❁				♦			♦	♦	
5930	Emerald Triumph Viburnum	❁					♦			♦	
5940	Roseum Snowball Viburnum	❁		♦			♦		♦	♦	
5962	Java Red Weigela								♦		
5985	Aunt Dee Wisteria							♦			
6261	Jack-in-the-Pulpit				♦						
6351	Marsh Marigold			♦							
6381	Lily of the Valley				♦	♦					♦
6451ff	Ferns			♦	♦						
6521ff	Daylily	some									♦
6591	Hibiscus			♦					♦		
6601ff	Hosta			♦	♦						♦
6671ff	Japanese & Siberian Iris	some		♦							
6691	Lavender	❁				♦					
6821	Bee Balm			♦							
6901ff	Tree Peony								♦		
6941	Russian Sage					♦					
7001	Mayapple			♦	♦						♦
7011	Solomon's Seal			♦	♦						
7021	Toad Lily				♦						
7051	Canadian Ginger				♦						♦
7061	Black Cohosh			♦	♦						
7091	Hyssop	❁				♦					

ff = and following

BULLETIN BOARD

2006 Tree Sale

Friday and Saturday April 28 & 29
9:00 until 3:00
for customers with preorders

Friday and Saturday May 5 & 6
9:00 until 3:00
for everyone

FEDCO ON THE WEB

Fedco Trees can be found on the Web at **www.fedcoseeds.com**. This year you can order trees on-line. Visit us throughout the year for event listings, planting instructions and links to other plant websites. We post color photos of most of the items we offer. During pre-order season you'll find current information on the availability of catalog items.

You are also welcome to **email us** at **trees@fedcoseeds.com**.

Maine Apple Day is on Saturday, October 22, 2005, from 10:00 to 4:00 in the exhibition hall of MOFGA's Common Ground in Unity.

Annual celebration of apples includes:
- cider-making
- tastings
- talks on fruit, wine and cider
- apples for sale
- an apple pie contest

Bring your best specimens for everyone to admire and mystery apples for identification.

For more information contact MOFGA.

To contact MOFGA, (the Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association) phone 207-568-4142 or go to www.mofga.org.

Orchard Ladders

Sturdy lightweight traditionally shaped wooden orchard ladders have wide bottoms for stability and narrow tops for easy handling and placement.
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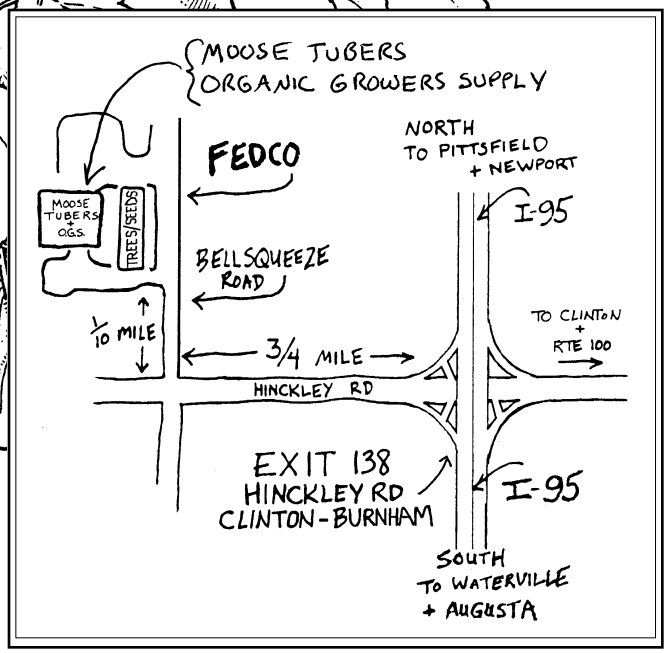
Seed Swap and Scion Exchange

Saturday March 25, 2006
12:00 to 4:30
The Maine Tree Crop Alliance, the Maine Seed Saving Network, Fedco and the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association will host the seventh annual combined Seed Swap and Scionwood Exchange, in MOFGA's Common Ground Exhibition Hall in Unity.

There will be the usual selection of interesting educational workshops for seed savers and fruit enthusiasts including seed saving and fruit tree grafting. Please bring any seeds, scionwood, or cuttings you have to share freely with others. We supply the labels and tape and markers. T-shirts, books, grafting supplies, rootstocks and sometimes rare seeds will be on sale. Contact MOFGA for more information.



Organic Orcharding Class Series

Once again in 2006 MOFGA will be sponsoring a comprehensive series of five classes in organic orcharding. The day-long workshops will be held at a variety of orchards in central Maine. Classes will follow the seasons from March through October, progressing from pruning to grafting to planting to disease and insect management to harvest. The subject matter will be geared towards beginners as well as experienced growers. The format will be primarily hands-on, although there will be plenty of time for discussions and questions. For more information, contact MOFGA.

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New for 2006

- New apples include:
  - Ashmead's Kernel
  - Red Astrichan
  - Wickson
  - Yellow Transparent
  - Kingston Black cider apple
- New pears:
  - Atlantic Queen
  - Magness
  - Sheldon
- Lapins cherry
- Harrow Beauty peach
- Chontay grape
- Somerset Seedless grape
- Pathfinder raspberry
- Meader kiwi
- Goodbarn elderberry
- Buddleia
- several new roses
- several new lilacs
- Pink Lily of the Valley
- 'Joan Elliott' Bellflower
- Marsh Marigold

Tools and books are in the Seed Catalog.

Trees & Shrubs
Fruits & Berries
Perennials
for Spring Planting

original catalog art by
John Bunker, Phoebe Bunker,
Bill Ciccariello, Gene Frey,
Sue Szwed & Gabriel Willow

Ordering Information p. 3
Index inside back cover
Final Order Deadline
March 3, 2006

2006 Tree Sale:
April 28-29 for preorders
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